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Hensley Settlement
Cumberland Gap National Historical Park
Bell County, Kentucky

Hensley Settlement
Cultural Landscape Report



Interior Region 2

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park

Hensley Settlement
Cultural Landscape Report

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CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

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Cover Image: View looking toward Willie Gibbon's Farmstead. Credit Brian Goad

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park

Hensley Settlement

Cultural Landscape Report

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Foreword

We are pleased to make available this Cultural Landscape Report, part of our ongoing effort to provide comprehensive documentation for the landscapes and historic structures of National Park Service (NPS) units in the Southeast Region (SER). A number of individuals and institutions contributed to the successful completion of this work. We would particularly like to thank the staff at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park for their assistance throughout the process. We hope this study will be a useful tool for park management in continuing efforts to preserve the cultural landscape and to others interested in the significance of the park's many cultural resources.

Barbara Judy, Branch Chief,
Cultural Resources Planning and Stewardship
Southeast Regional Office
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Angela Sirna's 2015 doctoral dissertation, "Recreating Appalachia: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, 1922-1972" provided important information related to Hensley Settlement, the founding of the park, the Mission 66 era in the NPS, and the work of the Job Corps that was part of the Great Society programs during the Lyndon Johnson administration's "War on Poverty." Sirna also provided an extensive list of reference material which was incorporated into the final report.

Within Suzanne Turner Associates, John Welch, Director of Research and Landscape Architect, served as the primary author. Senior Landscape Architect, Brian Goad authored the Existing Conditions analysis and provided numerous photographs of the site as it currently exists. Landscape Designer, Ashley Braquet, developed period plans and maps, produced the document layout, and assisted in editing. Senior Editor, Herpreet Singh, provided document reviews and revisions. Consultant Alison Rainey provided a final copy edit.

It is impossible to thank every person who has been involved in researching the Hensley Settlement. However, there is a group of people who were especially important in the dissemination of information about the Settlement: all those former residents and their direct descendants—the many members of the allied Hensley and Gibbons families—who sat through hours of oral history interviews over the years, sharing their knowledge about their home on the plateau atop Brush Mountain. The interviewees were comprised of the original group of people who settled the Hensley Flats, children who were born and lived at the Settlement for a period of time, and school teachers who taught the children at the Settlement. Their interviews sometimes romanticize the lifestyle they led, but they also acknowledge the frequent illnesses and deaths that the community experienced due to lack of access to modern medical care. They also sometimes underscore the daily drudgery of working from sunup to sundown to maintain homes, fencing, outbuildings, and to provide food for their families in difficult and often primitive circumstances.

These first-person accounts bring to life their community; their voices animate the landscape in a way that only they can; and their recollections provide the links to the land, their way of life, their hopes and dreams, and their investment in this site. It is through them that the researchers "see" Hensley Settlement as it was during the time the residents lived on the plateau.

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

Cultural Landscape Reports (CLR) often survey designed landscapes. These are landscapes that typically originated with a wealthy landowner, a trained architect, and a landscape architect who worked together to develop a cohesive plan that was beautiful, functional, and satisfied the artistic desires of the owner. In other cases, CLRs survey vernacular landscapes. These are sites that developed through the efforts of the public or through informal means. These landscapes have historically taken on forms defined by legal boundaries and functional efficiency, and they have evolved and responded as climate and cultural practices have changed and advanced. Hensley Settlement falls into the latter category—a vernacular landscape that originated with a primarily functional purpose.

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park (CUGA) is located within three states—Kentucky, Virginia, and Tennessee—and Hensley Settlement is located within CUGA near the state lines of Kentucky and Virginia. It was established in 1903 as a group of communal family subsistence farms that evolved as the number of residents increased. The number of people residing in the Settlement began to decline in later decades, until the last resident moved away in 1951.

The way the residents sited their homes and support structures, with a south-facing aspect on the edge of the mountain plateau, was a direct response to severe winter weather; by positioning their houses in this manner, they were protected from northern winds and gained the warmth of the southern sun. This was definitely true of the Hensley and Gibbons families, according to oral histories that CUGA employees conducted in the late 1960s and early 1970s. These oral histories document the activities of the families in their mountaintop community and surrounding environs. The community members' need for clean, potable water was another key factor in the location choices they made. Springs provided the best source of water, and the Settlement had the advantage of two spring locations, one at the headwaters of Martins Fork and one at Shillalah Creek. In addition, there were other minor springs that fed into larger streams and creeks.

In the winter of 1903 and spring of 1904, the family patriarch, Burton Hensley Sr., purchased a five-hundred-acre tract of land and apportioned much of the acreage to sixteen of his children. Some family members purchased additional land from him as well. The families created a cohesive landholding, lived in proximity to one another, and shared many communal resources, all while individually holding their own private property.

There were peripheral members of the community located on adjoining property, and their involvement with Hensley Settlement—from barn and cabin raising to helping during harvest season—was integral to its overall story. There were many families who lived immediately adjacent or in close proximity to the Hensley and Gibbons families. One of the more important members of the community was Thomas Jefferson Cupp, whose adjoining homestead was located near Chadwell Gap. Members of the Miracle family show up on Brush Mountain Road in the census records as early as 1910. In those records, the W. S. Miracle family's information directly follows that of the Sherman Hensley family. The Miracles are also referred to in the oral histories—for example, we learn from such history that Ewing Miracle taught at the first school on Brush Mountain.

Whereas the Miracles were close neighbors, there are other names that appear to be allied families or those who were related to the Hensleys by blood or marriage. In particular, the Saylors are related through their mother, Melissa Hensley Saylor Crider, whose children were listed in the 1920 census as residing on Brush Mountain. During the period when the Settlement had a higher-than-average population, census data shows that the surrounding land was inhabited by families other than the Hensleys and Gibbonses. Other neighbors such as the Wilders, Lees, and Greens lived in

close proximity, according to census records. The closeness of the surrounding community is best demonstrated by the nonfamily members buried in Hensley Cemetery. The fact that neighbors were occasionally buried in the family cemetery (likely due to the difficulty of transporting their bodies off the mountain during harsh winter weather) underscored the close connections between the family and their neighbors.

The family patriarch, Burton Hensley Sr., never lived at Hensley Settlement. Although he provided the initial opportunity through his land acquisition and bequests, his children, their spouses, and their children were the people who created the Settlement community. Burton Sr.'s descendants arrived in the early 1900s, which was a period when the world was rapidly industrializing, and they relied almost solely on preindustrial agricultural methods and a long-standing tradition of subsistence farming. Without knowledge, planning, resolve, and hard work, his descendants could not have maintained this way of life at Hensley Settlement for as long as they did—remarkably, almost fifty years.

Residents of Hensley Settlement did not widely adopt the many changes and advances made throughout the country and world between 1900 and 1950. Instead, they chose to live remotely, in a location that was inaccessible to automobiles, without public water or sewer connections, and without electricity. Despite the distance to, and difficulty in reaching the surrounding towns, the Hensley residents frequently visited them to trade, pay taxes, sell wool and chestnuts, and buy supplies for their farmsteads. The oral histories confirm that male residents made frequent trips to towns at the base of the mountains on both the Kentucky and Virginia sides. Interviewees frequently stated that they bought only what they could afford and that they did not take on debt for things they did not need or want.

One of the overarching principles that bound the Settlement community members together was their familial relationship to one another. They worked within a system that remained cohesive for several decades, until the lure of steadier work, higher pay, and an increasingly urban lifestyle caused younger people to leave the isolated subsistence farm community where they grew up. Eventually, founding members also left the farmsteads they had established as homes.

Nearly seventy years after Hensley Settlement's final resident departed, its current boundaries are surrounded by the forested land on which the interwoven Hensley and Gibbons families once lived. Even in this evolved physical context, the site still retains its overall cohesiveness, although in a simplified form. The gardens and cultivated fields no longer exist, but the farmsteads—with their assemblages of houses and farm buildings, fence lines, paths, and roads—and the central communal school house and cemetery create a tout ensemble that shapes and defines a vernacular cultural landscape.

The Hensley Settlement CLR part 1 documents the history of Hensley Settlement using archival materials, academic research, and comparative analysis of available photographic records. Collectively, CLR part 1 and CLR part 2—the Treatment Plan—will provide the basis for making sound decisions about management, treatment, and use.

Any study of a farm landscape is equally a study of the people, their work, and the economic system in which they operated, and Hensley Settlement is no exception. Theirs was a cash-and-barter system, with money earned by occasionally selling surplus farm produce, by producing and marketing moonshine, by attending "trade" days across the state line in Virginia, and by working for the railroads and at mines in the vicinity, the closest being the Chadwell Gap Coal Company. This system—in which they went to the small nearby trade towns and visited Pineville, the county seat, to pay property taxes, conduct legal business, and buy other goods—is discussed extensively in the oral histories.

There is little to no mention in the oral histories of banking in the conventional way. Only one person mentions a savings account, but she was a schoolteacher who spent much of her adult life away from Hensley Settlement. Most residents likely stored cash at home, saving what they needed to purchase shoes, fabric or clothes, tools, and farm and milling machinery. Periodically, younger generations of the families left Hensley Settlement. They either purchased land and settled in adjoining towns, or they migrated north to Pontiac or Detroit to participate in the automotive boom that began in the 1920s. The oral history interviews with Lige Gibbons and Gilbert Hensley mention that their children—General Gibbons, Nicely Ann Gibbons,

Homey Hensley and Goldy Hensley—all moved to Michigan.[1]

As Suzanne Turner Associates (STA) approached this CLR, the firm wanted to better understand the sociology of the family that banded together to create a life on Hensley Flats, the plateau atop Brush Mountain. One of the important works on family farm communities in Kentucky is Rhoda H. Halperin's *The Livelihood of Kin: Making Ends Meet "The Kentucky Way."* Halperin states that families in poor regions often depend on one another for moral and financial support. The oral histories detail times when the community members shared produce and tools and helped sick family members plant or harvest. This kind of cooperation created strong bonds of kin and friendship that bound them together in their joint efforts. Hensley Settlement represents a distinct regional kinship model, one that is inextricably linked with subsistence farming.

Even at the time Hensley Settlement was first established, the community there and its material culture represented an Appalachian way of life that otherwise either had disappeared or was in rapid decline. According to Halperin, "The manifestations of the Kentucky way are played out in all parts of the region in crosscutting patterns: homeplace ties, loyalty and generosity to kin, commitment to versatility, self-sufficiency, and self-reliance."[2] When subsistence farming was the occupational choice, these bonds of kinship, and the ability and need to cooperate with other family members, were central to the Hensley Settlement community.

Hensley Settlement is part of CUGA on the far eastern edge of the state of Kentucky, approximately 14.4 miles northeast of Middlesboro, Kentucky. The National Park Service (NPS) holds most of the land that comprised the original Settlement. The Settlement encompasses the heads of Shillalah Creek and Martins Fork and lies just west of Bales Meadows, an important feature that has been referenced in Civil War records.

The cabins and associated farm buildings are surrounded by grass, fields, and orchards, which create a semipastoral setting dotted by occasional shade trees, remnant plant material, and fences similar those historically used at the Settlement. There are multiple homesteads, all developed by the Hensleys, the Gibbonses, and allied families; the reconstruction of the last building in which many of the children attended school; and the family cemetery. Service and maintenance buildings are located on the far eastern edge of the site behind a treelined fence. These structures are hidden from the visitor's view but are easily accessed by the landscape and architectural maintenance crews.

The purpose of Hensley Settlement is to preserve, interpret, and educate the visiting public on the homesteads and material culture of the extended family that occupied the site for almost fifty years between 1903 and 1951. This is accomplished by representing their lifeways, subsistence agrarian culture, and educational and religious practices and by interpreting the surrounding landscape that was part of their larger experience. The National Register nomination for Hensley Settlement states:

> Hensley Settlement preserves a disappearing culture in American History and reflects the operation of a complete and nearly self-sufficient isolated Southern Appalachian community as it existed in the decades before and after 1900. It is unique not for this reason only, but also as a complex that survived until after World War II (WWII) and whose elements, although deteriorated, remained present until the late 1960s when restoration began. A number of these elements combine to make it a significant part of Southern Appalachia culture: 1. The architecture, design and construction of the buildings; 2. Its extreme isolation from other communities and services; and 3. The communal nature of the settlement.[3]

These three overarching elements still exist at Hensley Settlement—the log-cabin architecture, the remote location, and the settlement pattern on the top of Brush Mountain.

1 Lige Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 5, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 10, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY; Gilbert Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, September 3, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 57, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

2 Rhoda H. Halperin, *The Livelihood of Kin: Making Ends Meet "The Kentucky Way"* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1990), 3.

3 Jennifer D. Brown, "Hensley Settlement," National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form (Middlesboro, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1980, revised 1997).

Any discussion regarding Hensley Settlement and its place in Kentucky history is also dependent on the community's clear proximity to Virginia. Its adjacent location north of Tennessee is less integral to the Settlement. Throughout the Hensley Settlement oral histories, frequent references are made to business conducted in Virginia. As such, the early history of the region, inclusive of Kentucky and Virginia, is important in understanding early views about land, land claims, and property rights. Occasionally, these views extended to insular attitudes toward outsiders, especially revenue agents attempting to collect taxes on moonshine or to prevent the production of same during Prohibition. The oral histories also indicate that the Hensleys paid a great deal of attention to land surveys, ensuring that they maintained clear titles and definitive ownership of landholdings, which were then maintained at the courthouse. This ensured that their property rights could be defended if there were ever boundary challenges.

PURPOSE, SCOPE & METHODOLOGY

Management Summary

The purpose of this CLR, and the accompanying Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI), is to respond to both short- and long-term management issues associated with the site. Because Hensley Settlement is in a remote location, accessibility by large equipment is difficult, and the technical skills needed to maintain a collection of structures built using outmoded techniques creates issues that the park service is required to address.

Although the management goals for Hensley Settlement have not changed, the NPS's *Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement* (GMP/EIS) prefers the alternative C concept, which allows for increased visitor access and enhanced facilities in the park as a whole. Two developed zones on the east and west sides of Hensley Settlement were proposed:

> Creation of a Developed Zone on the west side of the Hensley Settlement would allow for improvement of Shillalah Creek Road by creation of a new parking area at the base of Brush Mountain and paved parking immediately adjacent to the Hensley Settlement. These changes would allow increased access to the Hensley Settlement, with a larger Developed Zone than Alternatives A and B.
>
> Creation of a Developed Zone on the east side of the Hensley Settlement (adjacent to the existing Hensley Settlement Historic District) would provide visitors with an increased potential to access more facilities such as campsites, trails, and Martins Fork Cabin. In addition, visitors would be provided with increased access to the Shillalah Creek Wildlife Management area and the Kentucky Division of Water lands located adjacent to the park.[4]

This CLR includes recommendations to address these long-standing challenges. Guidance is also provided for maintaining the high standards that enhance the visitor experience while maximizing park service efforts and resources.

Location

CUGA is situated in three states: on the far eastern border of Kentucky, on the far northeastern border of Tennessee, and on the southwestern border of Virginia at the state line. Hensley Settlement is located within CUGA, but more specifically, the Settlement lies on Brush Mountain in Kentucky on a plateau called Hensley Flats. The Hensley Flats designation first appeared in 1955 on USGS quadrangle maps, and use of this name continues to the present. Hensley Flats is located on Brush Mountain, and Cumberland Mountain runs parallel, about 750 feet to the south. Shillalah Creek separates Cumberland Mountain from the flats and begins about 1,000 feet southwest of the Settlement. Shillalah Creek then flows southwest before turning north and heading down Brush Mountain, where it joins Clear Fork. Cubage Creek begins on the north side of Brush Mountain approximately 1,000 feet northwest of the clearing (**Figure 1-1**).[5]

4 *Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement* (Middlesboro, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2010).

5 "Cumberland Gap: Maps," Middlesboro, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, November 23, 2018, accessed July 28, 2020, https://www.nps.gov/cuga/planyourvisit/maps.htm.

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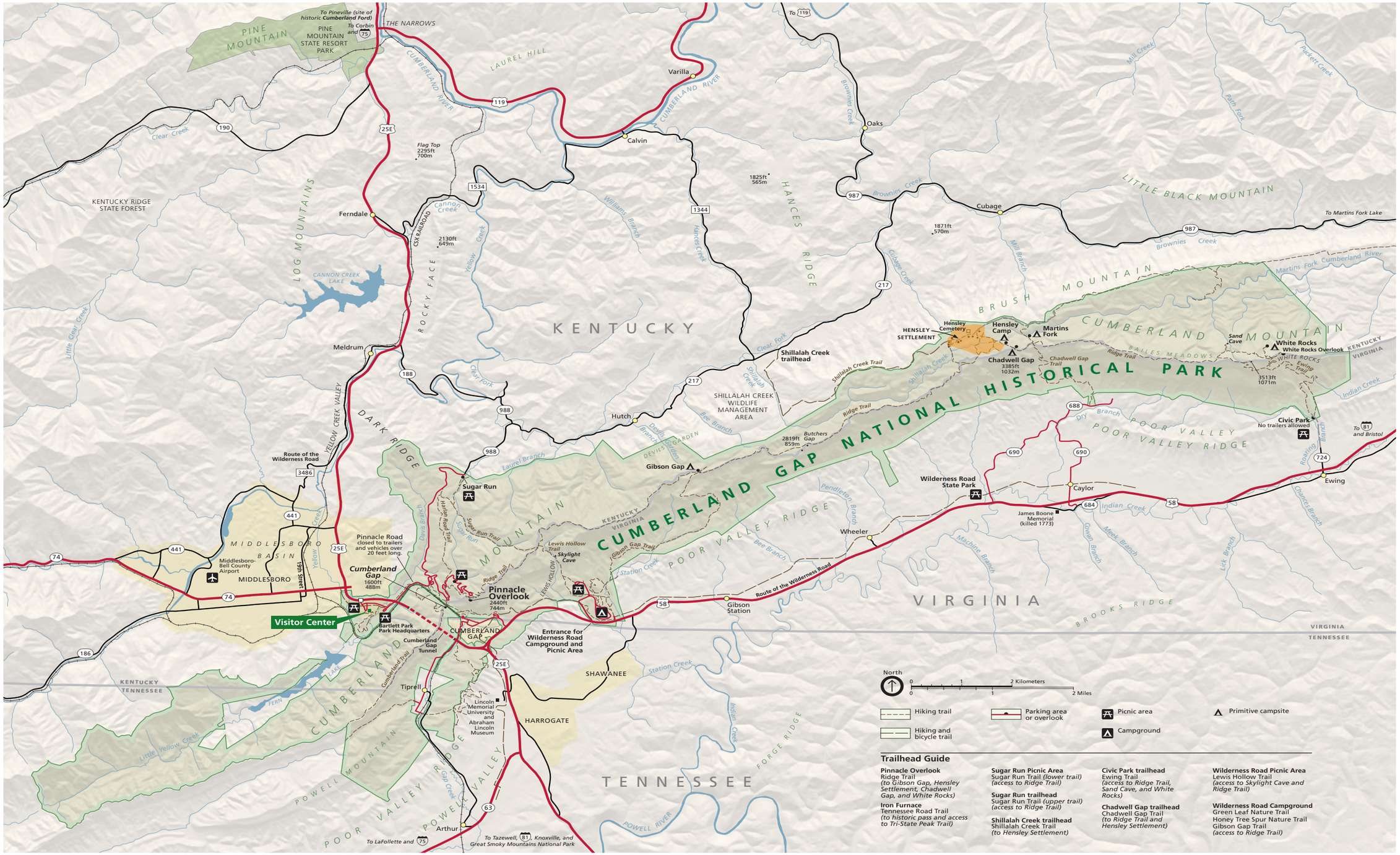


FIGURE 1–1. Cumberland Gap National Historical Park map. Source: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park website, see footnote 5.

For research purposes, the current boundaries of the Settlement contain sixty acres of cleared land and seventy-nine forested acres. Hensley Settlement is bordered on the south, toward Virginia, by forested lands that stretch between the Settlement and adjacent towns in the valley below; Wheeler, Virginia, is approximately 2 miles southwest of the Settlement, and Ewing, Virginia, is approximately 2.5 miles southeast of the Settlement.

Starting at the eastern end of CUGA near Ewing, Wilderness Road runs roughly parallel with CUGA toward Wheeler and Harrogate before crossing CUGA through the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky. On the Kentucky side of the Settlement, there are no towns as close as those in Virginia. Middlesboro, Kentucky, is approximately 14.4 miles south-southwest of the Settlement. Forested land extends to the valleys below, which are heavily bisected by highways. Highway 987 is north of CUGA and runs west before turning north just beyond the intersection with Highway 217. Highway 217 runs southwest, roughly parallel to the park, before meeting Highway 988, which runs north-south (**Figure 1-1**).

The remote location and high elevation, approximately 3,260 feet above mean sea level (MSL), create a distinct sense of separation from the pace and interruptions of modern life in the surrounding communities located only a few miles away. The forest canopy that surrounds the entire Settlement creates a seemingly uninterrupted enclosure, such that views from the Settlement out to developments beyond are limited.

Methodology

The Hensley Settlement CLR is organized into four chapters that record the site history and existing conditions, analyze and evaluate the cultural landscape, and recommend ongoing treatment and management guidelines for the property. The CLR is the primary document that the NPS will use to make both short- and long-range management and treatment decisions for this historical property. The CLI, which will be submitted separately, inventories and records the cultural landscape features in detail, using narrative, photographs, and geographic information systems (GIS) mapping.

The CLR site history (chapter 2) covers the following periods:

1. The precontact period, which is especially defined by the activity of Indigenous people in the area

2. The period from 1750 to 1792, which is defined by European colonization, the French and Indian War, and the settlement of Cumberland Gap

3. The period from 1792 to 1843, which is defined by early settlement and Kentucky statehood

4. The period between 1843 and 1903, which is defined by the Bales's land ownership, including Martins Fork and Shillalah Creek

5. The period from 1903 to 1951, during which Hensley Settlement was first established and evolved

6. The period from 1951 to 1965, during which the NPS Mission 66 program began documenting the people and way of life that had existed at Hensley Settlement via an ambitious oral history project and the beginning of the CUGA Job Corps

7. The period between 1965 to 1979, which began during the Johnson administration with the start of the CUGA Job Corps program, under the management of the NPS. During this period, the CUGA Job Corps program completed work on the Hensley Settlement buildings to develop and implement interpretive farmer demonstrations on the site, which helped preserve this distinctly Appalachian community.

8. 1979, when the National Register nomination form was first submitted, in effect formalizing Hensley Settlement as a cultural landscape, to the present

The existing conditions (chapter 3) focuses on the cultural landscape features and architectural assemblages at Hensley Settlement as documented in September 2017. The chapter includes repeat photography, which matches and compares historic photographs with contemporary photographs that have been taken from the same or similar vantage points. The inventory of historic photographs of the

landscape is not extensive and is mostly comprised of groups of family members. This provided a challenge in determining the appearance of the landscape during the period of significance.

The analysis and evaluation (chapter 4) compares the historical context discussed in chapter 2 with the existing conditions recorded in chapter 3. This is the basis of an analysis of landscape characteristics and an assessment of integrity.

The recommended treatment (chapter 5) is based on the findings of this report, the 2010 GMP/EIS preferred alternative, and other park management goals. The recommendations will serve as the primary guidance document for the immediate management and long-term planning needed to protect and enhance the Hensley Settlement cultural landscape.

Research for the report began with an analysis of digital documents and contextual narratives that discuss CUGA, the Cumberland Gap area within CUGA, eastern Kentucky, and other relevant landscape historical contexts. The researchers visited the site to conduct an existing conditions inventory based on visual inspection and photographic documentation. Research staff also visited park archives and reviewed all the available documents, reports, maps, photographs, and texts that could provide information about the park and specifically about Hensley Settlement.

The Hensley Settlement oral histories that park staff conducted during the transformation of Hensley Settlement from private family land to public park provided valuable information about the daily lives of the inhabitants and their interactions with the land.[6] STA researchers maintained the spelling and grammar of the original transcriptions. Researchers also listened to as many of the original tapes as possible to get a sense of the dialect and accuracy of the transcriptions. The researchers are not professionals in the areas of dialects and linguistics, but the transcriptions seem to accurately reflect the informants' intended meanings and speaking styles. The oral histories were conducted in the late 1960s and early 1970s. During this period, oral history projects were an emerging field of study, and Appalachian studies was only beginning to be established as an academic discipline in colleges in the region. The oral histories document the community's farm methods, crops, and families as well as its education and religious practices. During the time that the Hensley Settlement oral histories were recorded, an independent project called the Foxfire series was also recorded. Begun at a high school in Georgia, the Foxfire recordings, quarterly articles, and published books served to document and preserve Appalachian folkways for a broader audience. Many of these documents are now used by regional food editors and cooks, continuing the foodways and methods that have been used for centuries in the Appalachian Mountains.[7]

At the beginning of each CLR project, researchers develop an extensive timeline that serves as the narrative framework from which the report is written. Although sources are sometimes contradictory, it is important to consider different sources in order to assess which are the most authoritative. The process also involves removing items from the timeline that provide broad background material and instead including broad context in the final narrative. The final timeline consists of entries that relate directly to the cultural landscape history of Hensley Settlement.

There are few photographs of Hensley Settlement when it was occupied by the Hensley and Gibbons families. Those that do exist are primarily family group photos, and they do not relate to the larger landscape. This made the analysis of integrity and the use of repeat photography more challenging. Most of the images held by the NPS date to between the 1940s and the 1970s. This period covers the time of the acquisition of the site by the NPS, the work of the CUGA Jobs Corps when the land began to revert to underbrush and volunteer trees, and the period immediately after the land was recleared and the structures were prepared for public tourism. Hopefully, more historic photographs of the general landscape will turn up over time.

The initial National Register nomination was submitted in December 1979 and accepted in January 1980. The nomination included documentation related to the history of Hensley

6 Angela R. Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, 1922–1972" (PhD diss., Middle Tennessee State University, 2015), 309–10.

7 Tove Danovich, "The Foxfire Book Series that Preserved Appalachian Foodways," *The Salt* (blog), National Public Radio, March 17, 2017, www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2017/03/17/520038859/the-foxfire-book-series-that-preserved-appalachian-foodways.

Settlement and a discussion regarding the "partial restoration of the Settlement" by the CUGA Job Corps. The nomination listed forty-three contributing resources and six noncontributing resources, with an associated map. An amendment in 1997 reclassified three structures from contributing to noncontributing, which brought the new total to forty contributing resources. The decision to change these resources from contributing to noncontributing was ascribed to the construction methods used during the 1960s restoration and to the amount of replacement materials that were necessary to stabilize the Finley Hensley Barn. The amendment also noted the demolition of the Finley Hensley Granary due to advanced deterioration.[8]

A 2003 report authored by researchers at East Tennessee State University provided extensive information related to agricultural practices at the site, which was helpful in locating primary and secondary source documents and aided in gaining an initial understanding of the context of Hensley Settlement.[9] The 2010 GMP/EIS updated the park's priorities and needs. The most recent CUGA document, the March 2016 *Foundation Document* (FD), provided an updated outlook on interpretive direction and needs at the park. The GMP/EIS and the FD will be important in informing the short- and long-term management recommendations for Hensley Settlement.

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR'S STANDARDS

Standards developed by the NPS for recording, analyzing, and treating cultural landscapes were used in order to inventory, assess, and analyze the cultural landscape of Hensley Settlement. These standards evolve constantly as they are tested in the field, as academic research develops new ways to handle challenges related to continually evolving landscapes, and as funding mechanisms engender changes in the way managers choose to maintain landscapes. Yet, while considering funding constraints, interpretation must nonetheless be completed in ways that engage the general public, increase visitorship, and protect and preserve resources.

To accomplish these tasks and make determinations at the management level that are sought by resource managers, four treatment alternatives are considered. These four treatment options were first developed for historical architecture and were then adapted to cultural landscapes in park service environs. The four primary approaches are as follows:

> Preservation requires "retention of the greatest amount of historic fabric, including historic form, features, and details as they have evolved over time."
>
> Rehabilitation "acknowledges the need to alter or add to a cultural landscape to meet continuing or new uses while retaining the landscape's historic character."
>
> Restoration allows for "the depiction of a landscape at a particular time in its history by preserving materials from the period of significance and removing materials from other periods."
>
> Reconstruction establishes a framework for "recreating a vanished or non-surviving landscape with new materials, primarily for interpretive purposes."[10]

The recommended treatment approach for Hensley Settlement is preservation. The expressed goal of the *Standards for Preservation and Guidelines for Preserving Cultural Landscapes* is retention of the landscape's existing form, features, and materials.

8 J. D. Brown, "Hensley Settlement."

9 Jean Haskell, Alison Blanton, and Edward Speer, "Hensley Settlement Cultural Landscape Report (Draft)" (Johnson City: East Tennessee State University Center for Appalachian Studies and Research Services, 2003).

10 Anne E. Grimmer, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* (Washington, DC: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Technical Preservation Services, 2017).

OVERVIEW OF SITE HISTORY

The plateaus of the Cumberland mountain range are areas where indigenous people hunted, where the earliest settlers found high land to provide pasture in the summertime for livestock— primarily sheep and cattle—and where small family subsistence farms became the predominant economic entities in the second half of the 1800s. The industrialization of the region through mineral and timber extraction changed the face of the area and engendered changes in population as those industries went through periods of growth and decline. The site history includes photographs, maps, and period plans that attempt to illustrate the appearance of the landscape at the end of each historical period.

Bales family members were the original 1843 grantees of the land atop Brush Mountain. During their ownership of property there, which spanned sixty years, they cleared forested areas to create pasture. In the late 1890s, the Bales family leased the land to John Nichols, who used it as pasture for livestock. The land he cleared may have been wilderness, and some of it may have been second-growth timber. Nichols and some of his family members occupied small cabins, although the locations of those original cabins are unknown. Whether the Baleses or the Nicholses constructed the cabins is also unknown. In the oral histories, both Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons state that they also occupied these small cabins when they originally arrived at Brush Mountain, and later, they deconstructed them so they could reuse the materials to build larger homes on their respective landholdings.

When the Hensley and Gibbons families arrived in the winter of 1903 and the spring of 1904, they allocated the existing cleared pastureland to various family members, cleared additional land, plowed and fenced gardens, planted fields, and developed homesteads and the surrounding outbuildings necessary for the operation of a subsistence farm.

The Settlement reached its height as a collection of family farms between 1920 and 1935, when there were more than seventy family members living on the site, according to family recollections and a review of the US census data for Brush Mountain in Bell County. Former histories conducted by various researchers and NPS employees have placed the number of residents in the Settlement to have been, at times, in excess of one hundred people.

During the occupancy, whatever the relationships were between family and neighbors, they lived in close proximity, educated their children in a one-room school house, and worked separately and collectively to sustain their families. The families survived on subsistence farming along with money they earned working on the railroads and in the regional coal mines, especially the nearby Chadwell Gap Coal Company, which was operational from 1922 through 1943. Work off of the Settlement was called "public" work. The 1920 census record lists Sherman Hensley's son Oscar as a section laborer on the railroad. Lissie Hensley's son Henry also worked as a section laborer, along with Elijah and Frank, two of Willie Gibbons's children. Section laborers replaced crossties, straightened rails, and generally ensured the safety of the railroad infrastructure. This was considered extremely difficult work. Census records do not provide details related to which railroad company they worked for, although the closest railroad line would have been the L&N Railway Line, which was constructed in 1886. This was in close proximity to what was later formally known as the Wilderness Road.

Although members had been leaving the community over the decades in search of marriage partners and better employment opportunities, the advent of World War II likely provided the final push that brought the community close to its end. Family members found employment in military industries such as coal mining and railroad maintenance. Researchers located only one military record that confirmed a Settlement member's participation in military activities: Elijah Gibbons enlisted in World War I in February 1918. Coal mining was considered an essential industry in the war effort, and miners commonly received deferrals. Sherman Hensley's draft card from 1942 states that he worked at the Chadwell Gap Coal Company in Ewing, Virginia, and he is listed as sixty years of age. It is not known whether Sherman performed "public work" as a miner to support the war effort, to support himself, or to do both.

Other economic and cultural factors also affected the decline of the Settlement. During the growth of the auto industry in the first half of the 1900s, some family members migrated to Pontiac, Michigan. Others wanted to be in a town on either side of the mountain in Kentucky or Virginia, where commercial goods were easier to obtain and where transportation routes were navigable. Some wished

to live a more modern life that included electricity and plumbing. The oral histories also indicate that the farmland was "worn out" and that crop production had decreased. Some informants state that they used manure and barn litter in the fields, but some interviewees mention later that they used commercial fertilizers in the cornfields. The Hensley Settlement oral histories document each of these variables as a reason for out-migration from the Settlement.

Planning efforts for CUGA had been in the works years before plans developed to integrate Hensley Settlement into the historical park. Congress established CUGA in 1940; meanwhile, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia were all involved in land acquisition throughout the 1940s and 1950s. The Kentucky National Parks Commission began to purchase land within Hensley Settlement in the 1940s, but it did not transfer this land to the NPS until 1955. CUGA, including Hensley Settlement, was officially dedicated in 1959.

When the Johnson administration launched the War on Poverty, they instituted various economic initiatives, including the creation of the NPS Job Corps. Some of the work of the CUGA Job Corps included "building and maintaining foot trails and truck roads, firefighting, brush clearing, establishing the Wilderness Road Campground, and restoring Hensley Settlement."[11] Their efforts stopped the Settlement from disappearing into the wilderness that had begun to encroach. The NPS oversaw the CUGA Job Corps work at the Settlement, and efforts to promote Hensley Settlement then grew to include living history farming demonstrations. Angela R. Sirna states that "to move the living history program forward, the park hired a farmer, farm demonstrator, and a foreman in 1968 to prepare an interpretive farm demonstration program."[12] After the CUGA Job Corps work concluded, the NPS oversaw maintenance of the buildings, instituted programs to document and plant apple trees in their former locations, and continued installation of infrastructure to enhance the visitor experience and provide the utilities needed to make the Settlement safe and sustainable.

The NPS nominated Hensley Settlement Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places on December 6, 1979, and it was listed on January 8, 1980.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Existing Conditions chapter records the landscape and architecture of Hensley Settlement through narrative and graphics. It is based on field surveys that STA and Joseph K Oppermann Associates (JKOA) conducted in September 2017 and July 2018. The firms worked together to document the overall landscape and the assemblage of buildings on the site. This final report utilizes site surveys and plans in GIS format. This data was provided by the NPS and augmented by the contractor, who produced additional layers of information. Characteristics and features documented include spatial organization, circulation, vegetation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, and small-scale features. This chapter also includes a limited study of repeat photography.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

The Analysis and Evaluation chapter considers the site history and existing conditions collectively, and it reviews the National Register of Historic Places documentation for Hensley Settlement in conjunction with surveys of historic photographs that STA located in the CUGA archives; these photographs represent the landscape at the time that the park service obtained the property. Since there is a shortage of photographs related to the early history of the site, images taken at the time of transfer (1951) and during the CUGA Job Corps restoration (1960s) make up, by necessity, the core of what the researchers used in the analysis.

The analysis served to reaffirm the Statement of Significance that is articulated in the National Register documentation. Although the Settlement is a construct of the first half of the 1900s, the National Register nomination form states the following:

> Hensley Settlement preserves a disappearing culture in American History and reflects the operation of a complete and nearly self-sufficient isolated Southern Appalachian community as it existed in the decades before and after 1900. It is unique not for this reason

11 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 246.

12 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 309.

> only, but also as a complex that survived until after WWII and whose elements, though deteriorated, remained present until the late 1960's [*sic*] when restoration began.

The National Register goes on to list the features that make the Settlement a clear representation of Appalachian culture:

1. The architecture, design, and construction of the buildings;

2. Its extreme isolation from other communities and services; and

3. The communal nature of the Settlement.

STA noted that the Settlement appears to satisfy two National Register significance criteria:

A. it is "associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history," notably, Appalachian patterns of settlement, and

C. it embodies "the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction."

Finally, STA evaluated the National Register's seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The evaluation determined that the Hensley Settlement cultural landscape still conveys its historic significance through the remaining existing resources and surrounding landscape. Although some resources have less integrity, the original locations of the homesteads, with their associated outbuildings and associated landholdings, create a scene that retains integrity. The original location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association all work together to create the historic integrity and significance of the Settlement. Both the 2010 GMP/EIS and the 2016 FD for CUGA include Hensley Settlement as an important resource and express the desire for more visitors to the site.

The Treatment Plan for Hensley Settlement correlates with the 2010 GMP/EIS and the 2016 FD for CUGA. These documents provide extensive framework and detailed recommendations about the direction that the park has chosen and how Hensley Settlement fits in with that direction. The Treatment Plan provides recommendations to protect and maintain the cultural resources of the site, taking into consideration the current budget and staffing levels of the park. Recommendations are provided in a chart along with narrative details.

There have been many studies, furnishing plans, farm treatment plans, and other research reports. These references are listed in the bibliography. By looking forward, the NPS will plan for the future potential needs and demands of Hensley Settlement visitors and especially for the preservation and management of the resource.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The locations of the homesteads of the Lee family at the head of Martins Fork, the earlier cabins and structures associated with the Bales period, and the ruins of houses, farm structures, mill locations, and stillhouses provide opportunities for archeological research. The location of the Lee family homesteads could inform an earlier period of settlement that might be the earliest occupation in all the surrounding community.

The doctors, midwives, traveling salesmen, itinerant preachers, and tradesmen who visited Brush Mountain inevitably affected human relationships at the Settlement. Likewise, the social and cultural contacts that occurred between the Hensley Settlement residents—the Gibbons, Hensley, and Saylor families—and those who lived on the surrounding farms also impacted their lives. This constant mixing of influences likely exposed the members of the family enclave to the opportunities that surrounded them during the economic depths of the Great Depression and to the employment opportunities engendered by an international war effort. Further research on these relationships could greatly enhance understanding of the Settlement.

As important as the internal boundaries are in understanding the organization of the site, the larger multicounty, multistate boundary of Appalachia supplies the broad framework that provides a regional perspective and approach to this discrete location. The economic study completed by John W. Eilert in 1968 provided the counties, states, NPS, and US government with data that was important as they made choices about how to increase economic activity in the area at that time. Since then, the Appalachian Regional Commission has continued to conduct research related to the area's health, economics, demographics, infrastructure and telecommunications, natural resources, and tourism. These important reports and relationships serve to enhance the opportunities for stewardship, interpretation, and economic development.

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Chapter 2

SITE HISTORY: THE NARRATIVE HISTORY OF CUMBERLAND GAP, BRUSH MOUNTAIN, AND HENSLEY FLATS

PRECONTACT AND THE WILDERNESS

Before the first explorers arrived in the Cumberland Gap area, the landscape was likely undisturbed wilderness. There is no extensive evidence of American Indian occupation of the site, although there is evidence of occupation by Indigenous people throughout the region. Therefore, Brush Mountain might have been a hunting and foraging ground in general for the Indigenous peoples who occupied the area. The 2005 archeological study conducted by Todd Ahlman, Gail Guymon, and Nicholas Herrmann furthers this theory by documenting periods of American Indian occupation from western to eastern Tennessee, typically along river valleys, coves, and alluvial terraces. The study does not document extensive areas of occupation in eastern Kentucky, but it does discuss the possibility of bands of hunter-gatherers having procured floral and faunal food from the region's ridges, terraces, and plateaus.[1]

Proximity to Cumberland Gap provided the potential for temporary-occupancy events on the plateau as warriors and hunters traversed the area in search of bison that were known to travel through the Gap. And as American Indians sought to protect their lands, the Gap became known as part of the Warrior's Path,

> part of an extensive trail system that extended across the Carolinas and Georgia and continued into East Tennessee. The branch that ran through East Tennessee began in the Cherokee town of Chota (on the Little Tennessee River), continued northward along the western side of the Appalachian Mountains, and passed through the "Dark and Bloody Ground" of present-day Kentucky.[2]

Ahlman, Guymon, and Herrmann's study of East Tennessee is critical in the sense that it connects the areas of Kentucky and Virginia to those areas north of East Tennessee. The Cumberland Gap region has been identified as "marginally situated, both geographically and culturally, to the southeastern Mississippian 'core' area."[3] According to anthropologist Richard W. Jefferies, the primary influences on far western Kentucky and far southwestern Virginia were from areas in East Tennessee and from the Cherokee chiefdoms that were primarily concentrated there. The physiographic connections that encouraged this association were primarily the river systems of the Cumberland Valley in Kentucky and the Powell/Clinch/Holston River valleys that originate in southwestern Virginia. These two riverine systems flow into far northeast Tennessee and converge to form the Tennessee River.[4] Jefferies states that "although these rivers and their tributaries sometimes made travel through the region difficult, they also provided access routes through the rugged terrain."[5] In his dissertation, William H. Reid described the environmental characteristics of the region as "very suitable for prehistoric settlement," as the "forests provided a diverse and abundant source of plant and animal foods, and the rich limestone-derived soils of the bottom lands, terraces, and upland were suitable for pre-historic

1 Todd M. Ahlman, Gail L. Guymon, and Nicholas P. Herrmann, *Archaeological Overview and Assessment of the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia* (Knoxville: Archaeological Research Laboratory, Department of Anthropology, University of Tennessee, July 2005) 11–15.

2 Ahlman, Guymon, and Herrmann, *Archaeological Overview and Assessment*, 15.

3 Richard W. Jefferies, "Living on the Edge: Mississippian Settlement in the Cumberland Gap Vicinity," in *Archaeology of the Appalachian Highlands*, ed. Lynne P. Sullivan and Susan C. Prezzano (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2001), 199.

4 Jefferies, "Living on the Edge," 199.

5 Jefferies, "Living on the Edge," 199.

agriculture."[6] According to Reid, "white-tailed deer was the major source of animal protein, followed by black bear and turkey. Corn, beans and squash were the primary plant foods."[7]

Due to the plentiful supply of game and to fertile soil, the area attracted mound builders who also created associated settlements and towns. A resource less than ten miles east of Hensley Settlement is the Ely Mound Archeological Site. Located near Rose Hill, Virginia, at the base of the mountain to the east of the Settlement, Ely Mound is a well-preserved mound structure that dates to the "latter part of the Mississippian Period (ca. AD 1200–1650)."[8] The nineteen-foot-high mound was excavated in the 1870s by Lucien Carr, an archeologist who served as the assistant curator at Harvard's Peabody Museum of Archeology and Ethnology.[9] Keith Egloff, coauthor of *First People: The Early Indians of Virginia*, notes that "based on artifacts observed in nearby fields, there also is a small settlement, or town, associated with the mound."

Another site located in Rose Hill is the Carter Robinson Mound, which also contains an extensive settlement complex and is associated with late Mississippian culture.[10] The Hodge Mound site was located in Pineville, Kentucky, northwest of Hensley Settlement. Destroyed in 1970, the site "represents another example of a Mississippian multi-stage platform mound."[11]

While most of the mound structures, villages, towns, and settlements were located in valleys and floodplains on fertile, alluvial soil, it is highly probable that hunting occurred on plateaus and flats in association with the oak-chestnut mast-producing forests, which dominated higher elevations of the Cumberland Gap region before the chestnut blight that occurred around 1930.

The Cherokee and Shawnee were primary among the Indigenous people who occupied eastern Kentucky during the historic period, although no clear boundaries defined their tribal lands. Warring parties sometimes encountered one another, but there is little to suggest that the area was anything other than forested lands with plentiful bison, deer, elk, bear, and other game roaming widely throughout plateaus, coves, valleys, and gaps.

6 Reid, quoted in Jefferies, "Living on the Edge," 199.

7 Jefferies, "Living on the Edge," 202.

8 Keith Egloff, "Ely Mound Archaeological Site," *Encyclopedia Virginia*, February 22, 2016, www.encyclopediavirginia.org/Ely_Mound_Archaeological_Site.

9 Egloff, "Ely Mound Archaeological Site.".

10 "Carter Robinson Mound and Village Site," Archaeological Fieldwork Opportunities Bulletin, Archaeological Institute of America, accessed March 7, 2019, expired June 25, 2017, www.archaeological.org/fieldwork/afob/24631.

11 David Pollack, *The Archaeology of Kentucky: An Update, Volume Two*, State Historic Preservation Comprehensive Plan Report No. 3 (Frankfort, KY: Kentucky Heritage Council, 2008), 692.

THOMAS WALKER AND THE SETTLEMENT OF CUMBERLAND GAP (1750 – 1792)

According to Robert Kincaid's scholarship from the 1950s, the earliest known European to locate and cross the Cumberland Gap is believed to be Gabriel Arthur, "a young indentured servant … [who] emerged as the first white man of record to travel the route of the Wilderness Road and find Cumberland Gap, the most significant pass through the mountain wall separating the East from the West."[12] In 1749, the Loyal Land Company and the Ohio Land Company were both established in Virginia. They distributed hundreds of thousands of acres in western Virginia to members of each organization; these areas would become Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia.[13] Dr. Thomas Walker, who headed the Loyal Land Company, and land speculators James Patton and John Buchanan were charged with the task of "tak[ing] up and sell[ing] land in the upper Tennessee watershed."[14]

At the time, large and small game were plentiful. In his journal, Walker notes that during their exploration, they "killed in the Journey 13 Buffaloes, 8 Elks, 53 Bears, 20 Deer, 4 Wild Geese, about 150 Turkeys, besides small Game. We might have killed three times as much meat, if we had wanted it."[15] Pioneers and settlers flooded into the area, through the Cumberland Gap, and west into the middle of Kentucky. It is estimated that "between 1760 and 1850 more than 300,000 people walked, rode, or were carried over the Appalachian Mountains through Cumberland Gap."[16]

These early settlers did not arrive without incident. As American Indians experienced increasing encroachment on their lands and their way of life, they resisted. After they were encouraged by the French, war broke out. The French and Indian War of 1754–-1763 was an overt attempt to stop settlement of the region and push English pioneers back within the bounds established by the Treaty of Lancaster in 1744.[17] Recognizing the need to protect settlers and wanting to affirm their claim to the area, the British established Fort Chiswell in 1760. It was located at the base of the first line of mountains on the ecotone between the Virginia piedmont and the Allegheny range just to the west, approximately 144 miles east of the land that would become Hensley Settlement. The location was also "near the point where the territorial claims of the Shawnees and Cherokees and Virginia's horde of high-placed land speculators all converged."[18] Colonel William Byrd III realized that permanent settlement and claims to the land and minerals of the area would never succeed without military intervention and protection.

With the establishment of the fort, Byrd began the process of pushing the recognized settlement boundary to the west, which provided an important bulwark against repeated attacks by American Indians and protection to early settlers and pioneers as they ventured across the mountains toward Kentucky.[19] The palisade fort was also placed to protect the strategically important lead mines of one of Byrd's close political allies and friends, John Chiswell, after whom the fort was named.[20]

From the north and west, the French made inroads among the Seneca Nation, the largest in the Iroquois Confederacy. General George Washington was dispatched to the French fort at Venango to warn the French to stay out of the Ohio Valley. The French ignored the warning, and with the Shawnee, they raided frontier settlements in southwest Virginia and northwest North Carolina.[21] Frequent fighting occurred, and many settlements within the disputed territory were destroyed. In 1763, the Royal Proclamation Line "prohibited white settlement beyond the crest of the Allegheny Mountains."[22]

12 Robert Kincaid, *The Wilderness Road* (Harrogate, TN: Lincoln Memorial University, 2005), 27.

13 John Alexander Williams, *Appalachia: A History* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2002), 7.

14 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 7.

15 Kincaid, *Wilderness Road*, 52.

16 Rebecca A. Vial, "Cumberland Gap and Cumberland Gap National Historical Park," *Tennessee Encyclopedia,* March 1, 2018, tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/cumberland-gap-and-cumberland-gap-national-historical-park/.

17 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 6, 25; Parke Rouse Jr., *The Great Wagon Road: From Philadelphia to the South* (Richmond, VA: Dietz Press, 2016), 71.

18 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 8.

19 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 3–8. This section provides a detailed description of Byrd's efforts and the establishment of Fort Chiswell and the associated community of Max Meadows. Little remains of this important bulwark of English expansionist efforts.

20 Rouse Jr., *Great Wagon Road*, 109.

21 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 55.

22 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 59.

The Royal Proclamation Line, though, did little to settle disputes between pioneer settlers and American Indians. At the end of the French and Indian War, the east-west roads across the Alleghenies—namely, Forbes's Road and Braddock's Road—were the predecessors to what would later be known as the Wilderness Road. This road, which was initially a "trail discovered by Thomas Walker and blazed by Daniel Boone," provided passage through the Cumberland Gap, from the Great Valley to Kentucky, and eventually to the Nashville Basin in Middle Tennessee.[23]

Boone, one of the more famous pioneers of the era, "made his first long hunt into Kentucky in 1769."[24] He hunted and explored for six months before he was discovered by the Shawnee and forced to leave. He returned in 1773 with a group of settlers to establish a community, but this early effort was not successful. He returned in 1775, under the sponsorship of General Washington, to again seek suitable land for settlements.

With the outbreak of the American Revolution, conscripted armies were available as armed forces. As American forces moved boundary lines farther and farther west, they began to encounter American Indian villages very similar to the ones they themselves inhabited. A campaign of removal and domination, undertaken by General Washington between 1779 and 1780, surprised some of the colonial soldiers due to the abandoned villages they encountered. John Alexander Williams writes, "Here, [among the Iroquois] as among the Cherokee, the surprised whites discovered and destroyed orchards and well-ordered croplands, log houses similar to the ones white frontier families lived in, and domesticated hogs, chickens, cattle, and horses."[25]

At the end of the Revolutionary War, colonial boundaries that had restrained settlement were removed. Williams explains that "Virginia's southern boundary was extended to the Mississippi …, the eventual border between Kentucky and Tennessee."[26] While the artificial boundaries extending west from the Atlantic Ocean served as major east-west lines of demarcation, rivers provided the primary means of establishing state boundary lines. The exception would be the eventual boundary between Virginia, the parent state, and Kentucky. Once Kentucky separated from Virginia and became a new state, part of the length of its boundary followed a major ridgeline described as "the crest of Pine Mountain, separating the Cumberland headwaters from those of the Tennessee and Big Sandy."[27] The boundary begins to transition over to the Cumberland range just south of Payne Gap and Mayking, Kentucky, connecting to the Cumberland ridge just south of Cranks, Kentucky, and continuing to the intersection of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia.

23 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 62.

24 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 60.

25 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 63.

26 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 70.

27 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 70.

KENTUCKY STATEHOOD AND EARLY SETTLEMENT (1792 – 1843)

Rampant land speculation characterized the postrevolutionary era in western Virginia, including the entire Appalachian region. Soldiers in the war and members of the Virginia House of Commons received land grants as forms of patronage. Speculators flooded the loosely surveyed areas using superior legal channels to claim lands that were inhabited by pioneers and early settlers in the region, regardless of their occupations and their squatting rights to the lands on which they had cleared fields and pastures and built cabins.

On June 1, 1792, the US Congress approved Kentucky's petition for statehood, making it the fifteenth state in the Union and the first state west of the Appalachian Mountains. Originally established as part of Virginia and called "Kentucky County" for most of its early settlement period and during the formation of its constitution, Kentucky derived much of its legal form and early financial investment from its parent state.[28] This event did not mark the first habitation in what became Kentucky. Williams states that "the era typically defined as the age of frontier and settlement in Appalachia [1730–1840] was actually an era of displacement and repopulation."[29]

Bell County historian Henry Fuson writes that a family headed by Andrew Lee settled early at the head of Martins Fork "near the present Harlan-Bell county line."[30] Andrew Lee arrived in 1818, and he recorded land surveys and land patents in 1819, 1821, and 1823. Fuson states that Lee sold all this land, comprising a few hundred acres, in 1830. There are multiple entries in Fuson's *History of Bell County, Kentucky* that refer to various Lee family members moving to other locales from "the head of Martins Fork of Cumberland River."[31] This homestead cannot have been too far from what would eventually become Hensley Settlement. Research of census records and deeds shows that Lee's great-grandson, William Gillis Lee Sr., purchased land from A. L. [Albert] Hensley around 1914. This land passed to Thomas Jefferson Cupp and then to William Gillis Lee Jr.[32] A survey completed by J. F. Davis for NPS in June 1950 shows that parcel 209, containing 67.5 acres, was owned by W. G. Lee—Andrew Lee's great-great-grandson.[33]

The flood of settlers through Cumberland Gap that had started after the end of the Revolutionary War continued, and tensions between white settlers and American Indians increased. Prior to Kentucky statehood, the newly formed United States of America adopted a "united policy of negotiation with the Indians."[34] Presidents throughout the period negotiated for better land terms, the protection of settlers, and increased expansion of white settlement. This power of negotiation coalesced in the War Department, created in 1789 during Washington's presidency, which adopted a policy of westward expansion of the original colonies and removal of American Indians to strictly controlled reservations on inferior lands further west.

Decades of negotiations reached an apex when Andrew Jackson was elected president in 1834. Jackson sponsored The Treaty of New Echota, named for the town of New Echota, Georgia, which set the terms for the removal of all Cherokee from their lands in Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee. The treaty passed the Senate in December 1835 by one vote, and Jackson signed the document into law.[35]

In 1838, the federal government sent in General Winfield Scott to remove through military force the remaining 14,500 members of the Cherokee Nation residing in the Appalachians to their new territory in Oklahoma. With an army comprising seven thousand federal and state of Georgia troops, Scott completed the removal of all Native peoples from the region during the fall of 1838 and winter of 1839. Approximately 25 percent died during the six-month journey in an event that became known as the Trail of Tears.[36] This event effectively ended any impediments to ownership and settlement and opened up lands that earlier settlers had been

28 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 70, 75, 136.

29 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 52.

30 Henry Harvey Fuson, *History of Bell County, Kentucky (*New York: Hobson Book Press, 1939), 163.

31 Fuson, *History of Bell County*, 294, 300, 336, 482.

32 Deed delineation: Heirs of Bales to Herbert [Bert] Hensley, etc., 1845, from CUGA documents on Sherman Hensley Tract 206, CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586, (Middlesboro, KY), See appendix C.

33 "Lee Family Tree," Ancestry.com, accessed September 5, 2019, www.ancestry.com/family-tree/tree/163547003/family.

34 Rouse Jr., *Great Wagon Road*, 233.

35 Rouse Jr., *Great Wagon Road*, 236.

36 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 80.

hesitant or unable to own and occupy. Within five years of the date of Scott's final removal, the Bales family took title to approximately five hundred acres of land atop Brush Mountain.

There were a variety of settlement types that were dependent on both the physical traits of the site and the cultural traits of the settlers. E. J. Wilhelm Jr.'s study of settlement types in the Blue Ridge Mountains is applicable to most areas of Appalachia. Although most settlements shared many physical and cultural traits, there were also variations in the physical traits of the settlement. Wilhelm's "Physical Traits" list is comprised of "1) site, 2) elevation, 3) climate, 4) exposure, 5) natural vegetation, and 6) soil." "Cultural Traits" are listed as follows: "1) settlement pattern, 2) house types, 3) barns and outbuildings, 4) economic pursuits, 5) social organization, 6) religious beliefs, 7) political organization, 8) genealogy, 9) isolation factor, 10) material culture, and 11) land use."[37]

Based on Wilhelm's analysis of the physical traits of settlement patterns, Hensley Settlement is a hybrid form that combines the meadow form of settlement with a strong linear component positioning most of the homesteads and outbuildings toward the southern side of Hensley Flats. Since Hensley Settlement tends toward the meadow form of settlement, it is relevant to consider Wilhelm's summation of the meadow or plateau.

> A common feature of meadow settlements, when they finally occurred in the nineteenth century, was for a single family to occupy the area. Settlement was last among the various types, and it depended almost entirely upon the emergence of livestock raising. Lone mountain families would act as tenant farmers and drovers for valley livestock. Cattle and sheep were driven up to the meadows for summer grazing.[38]

Whereas this pattern was emerging in the early 1800s in the Blue Ridge Mountains, the settlement of Hensley Flats and Bales Meadow may have occurred in the late 1800s due to the remote nature of the land and the difficulty accessing the flats. It seems possible that the plateau was settled and farmed by members of the Lee family during the 1830s. In 1843, the Bales grant was issued. There may have been other farmers raising livestock on the top of Brush Mountain on the Bales Grant. The Nichols family, discussed in the next section, was the first known to have inhabited permanent structures, just before the Hensleys bought the land.

Landscape Summary

Little is known about the plateau atop Brush Mountain during precontact and early settlement. Whether it was somewhat open or was forested wilderness with a mature canopy and open understory best suited for hunting or was some mix of these is unknown. To date, no evidence has been discovered that points to any kind of extensive American Indian settlement, such as those at the Cherokee Lower Towns near the North Carolina–Georgia border or the Overhill villages south of Knoxville—places where American Indians developed dense communities for protection, for trade, and in response to the constant encroachment of white settlers moving west.[39]

37 E. J. Wilhelm, Jr. "Folk Settlement Types in the Blue Ridge Mountains," *Keystone Folklore Quarterly* 12, no. 3 (Fall 1967): 159.

38 Wilhelm Jr. "Folk Settlement Types in the Blue Ridge Mountains," 170.

39 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 35, 51.

THE BALES GRANT (1843 – 1903)

The Bales family's grant and land ownership at the sources of Martins Fork and Shillalah Creek coincides with a period of farming activity in Harlan and Bell Counties that began in 1780 and continued through approximately 1889, spanning what was considered the rise of the industrial period in the Middlesboro metropolitan area. Fuson states that the greatest period of farm activity was between 1840 and 1889, when the subsistence lifestyle was the primary means of survival and employment and when the industrial period was beginning. This was also when logging and timber operations, iron furnaces, and the arrival of the railroad turned the area from an agricultural economy to a mixed agricultural and industrial/commercial economy based on mineral and natural resource extraction.[40]

In 1843, Kentucky governor William Owsley granted C. and R. M. Bales land "at the headwaters of Martins Fork and Shalalah [*sic*] Creek on the top of Cumberland Mountain"[41] (**Figure 1-1)**. This transaction is recorded in "Kentucky, Land Grants, 1782–1924" and lists the land in Harlan County. In 1867, Bell County was formed from portions of Harlan and Knox counties, so the land located at Martins Fork was then located in the newly created Bell County.[42] R. M. Bales was a prominent Virginian living in Lee County, Virginia. He served in the Virginia House of Delegates from December 1843 through February 1844 and in the Virginia state senate from 1861 to 1865.

An important connection between the Bales's land and events during the Civil War was recounted by Captain R. A. Ragan of the US Army in July 1863. Ragan had been fighting in East Tennessee and was traveling north with a group of soldiers to return to his regiment. To understand the connection, it is necessary to include the entire quote:

> "Boys, now follow me!" and we all crossed in safely and were at the foot of Cumberland Mountain, which was rough, steep, rocky and pathless. Every man had to pick his way until we nearly reached the top.
>
> As we crossed the valley, the air was filled with the stench of the decaying bodies of men who had been killed a few days before. No one could venture to remove or bury them. I understood afterward that they attempted to cross in the daytime and were killed.
>
> When we reached the top of Cumberland Mountain we came to what was called Bailes' Meadow, a name and place familiar to nearly every "pilot" and man who cross the mountain. The boys were worn out, mostly all bare-footed and nearly naked from crawling through bushes and briar thickets.
>
> Some of them, when we reached the top of the mountain, looked back in the valley of East Tennessee and said, "Farewell to rebellion;" and they looked North and said, "I can see the Promised Land!"[43]

In military terminology, a pilot is a person who guides soldiers through unfamiliar terrain. It was especially significant that "Bailes' Meadow" [Bales Meadow] was a familiar feature, roughly two miles east of Hensley Settlement, known to pilots and used as a crossing point from the valley up across the mountains. Certainly, it elevates that area in importance as a Civil War crossing that was recognized early in the history of the landholding. The proximity to Hensley Flats is also significant.

The development of an industrial economy in the area began roughly two decades following the end of the Civil War. Promoted by Scottish developer Alexander Alan Arthur, a group of investors called the Gap Associates formed in the late 1880s to capitalize on minerals found in the Appalachian region. In 1889, with financial backing from Baring Brothers in London, England, the Gap Associates incorporated and became the American Association Ltd. Under this incorporation, the group engaged in land development and mining of iron and coal in the valley below Cumberland Gap and particularly

40 Fuson, *History of Bell County*, 18.

41 Jean Haskell, Alison Blanton, and Edward Speer, "Hensley Settlement Cultural Landscape Report (Draft)" (Johnson City: East Tennessee State University Center for Appalachian Studies and Research Services, 2003), 3.

42 "Kentucky, Land Grants, 1782–1924," Ancestry.com, 1997. Original data: Willard Rouse Jillson, *The Kentucky Land Grants*, vols. 1–2 (Louisville, KY: Filson Club Publications, 1925).

43 R. A. Ragan, *Escape from East Tennessee to the Federal Lines. The History, Given as Nearly as Possible, by Captain R. A. Ragan, of His Individual Experiences during the War of the Rebellion from 1861 to 1864* (Washington, DC: James H. Dony, 1910; repr., Leopold Classic Library, 2017), 33–34.

in the city of Middlesboro, Kentucky, which until 1894 had been called Middlesborough.[44] With the 1889 incorporation, Arthur was "named general manager and chief American representative" of the newly formed organization.[45] Within a few months, the corporation had purchased or placed under option "more than 80,000 acres in the three states joining at Cumberland Gap."[46] Ultimately, the low quality of the iron ore in the valley, the difficulty of transporting coal by rail over the mountain to run the furnace mills, and the Panic of 1893 caused the American Association to fail.

While there was known activity at Bales Meadow, to date there is no information about the use of the Hensley Flats land between the time period of the Bales Grant and acquisition of the land in 1843 and the arrival of John Nichols under his leasehold arrangement in the late 1890s.

The Bales family ownership of the property was characterized by clearing the land for pasture. That was primarily accomplished at the end of their ownership, when the Baleses leased the land to John Nichols for a period of five years. Sherman Hensley states that Nichols worked the land with two of his sons-in-law, Bill Satterfield and Frank Connley.[47] Jim Nelson, another son-in-law of John Nichols, reputedly constructed the cabin that Nichols was living in and into which Sherman moved when he arrived on the mountain.[48] Based on these statements, taken from oral histories, there were multiple members of the Nichols family, related directly and by marriage, who worked on the land taking care of their herds of cattle on the mountaintop plateau. Sherman Hensley stated that "Nichols' place is closer to the Sand Cave," which would have placed it at the far eastern edge of the original five-hundred-acre tract as purchased in 1903.[49]

Nichols converted what was forested lands, whether wilderness or second-growth timber, into pasture for livestock. Nichols and his allied family members occupied small cabins either on the site or in close proximity. It is not known whether these cabins were constructed and used by the Baleses or by previous tenants before Nichols leased the land. It is also not clear where these preexisting cabins were located, although they must have been located on the land Burton Hensley Sr. purchased. Both Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons state in the oral histories that they occupied these smaller cabins when they arrived at Hensley Settlement, subsequently deconstructing them and reusing the materials to build larger homes for their growing families.

According to Michael Morse's 1975 seminal study of the material culture at Hensley Settlement, between 1901 and 1903, Josephua Hensley, Burton Hensley Sr.'s brother and Sherman Hensley's uncle, worked portions of the Bales land in what would become Hensley Settlement.[50] It is not clear whether Josephua connected Burton Hensley Sr. to Bales and the land or whether it was Sherman Hensley who, making visits to his uncle, first became aware of the Bales land. Josephua left in 1903 at the time of the purchase. As Burton Sr.'s brother, he was not one of the recipients of land, which was granted only to the patriarch's children.

The oral histories state that a portion of the land closer to Sand Cave was clear and open when the Hensleys arrived and that they were grazing cattle on that land. According to the following unaltered transcript, Sherman Hensley states:

> Well, it wuz a lot pertier then that it is now. Hit was all, well cleaned up an' they grazed it with big droves o' cattle. It's like a told you seventy-five to a hundred head. Steers in there and they kep it cleaned down an, an it wuz a right pretty place for to live up on the

44 Fuson, *History of Bell County*, 18; Kincaid, *Wilderness Road*, 317.

45 Kincaid, *Wilderness Road*, 317.

46 Kincaid, *Wilderness Road*, 317.

47 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, and Lige Gibbons, interviewed by Hobart G. Cawood, March 25, 1960, Oral History Tape Number 1, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

48 Sherman Hensley, interviewed by Robert W. Munck, July 16, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 23, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

49 Stella Hensley, interview by George Davidson, August 20, 1967, Oral History Tape Number 4, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

50 Michael Morse, "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture" (master's thesis, Western Kentucky University, 1975), 6.

> mountain. Good view from there. You could see a long way.[51]

Sherman Hensley is describing a landscape that is open, with grass kept shorn by the grazing cattle. It is probable that the landscape had few fences since it was all under one family's ownership and management, but it is possible that there was an encircling fence that surrounded the five hundred acres where they kept the cattle. The only structures that Sherman mentions are the Nichols's small log cabin in which Sherman Hensley first resided when he arrived in December 1903 and the small log cabin in which Willie Gibbons resided when he arrived in the spring of 1904. Sherman Hensley also states in one of the interviews that the land was in various states of timbered forest and cleared pasture, depending on the location atop the flats. Much of the land on the exterior of the cattle fields was "wild woods … just like timber," according to Sherman Hensley. During that 1960 interview, he says that there were hemlock, red spruce pine, black pine, chestnut, and hickory trees.[52] In an oral history interview conducted in the 1970s, Jess Gibbons states that none of the land his father owned was cleared when Willie Gibbons first arrived. When Willie spoke about clearing the land, he said that trees such as black gums, maples, chestnuts, and oaks had to be left in place until they could be deadened off.[53]

Clearing of fields for pasture or agriculture often involved a multistep process that had been handed down to early colonists by American Indians. First, an area was chosen for clearing, which would likely have contained a mix of large and small trees. The next step of the process was to girdle the bark of the existing trees at their base, which caused the trees to die. At that point, the farmer could cut the tree down and haul it to the edge of the field to use for firewood or for building a cabin. Alternatively, the deadened trees could remain in place with crops planted around them. Those trees would then be removed when they were completely rotted. Digging out or burning the remaining stumps wherever they stood was a less labor-intensive process.

Landscape Summary

During the Bales period, some of the land was cleared for pasture and farming, although much of the surrounding mountaintop would have been heavily timbered. The clearing of the land would have created some expansive views to areas off the mountain. Fencing was likely limited to an encircling fence around the leased land that the Nicholses managed. For them to have survived there, they would have likely planted vegetable gardens, although there is no evidence of farming during this period. The buildings described were two small log cabins, likely with associated outbuildings.

51 Sherman Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, July 30, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 33, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

52 Hensley, Gibbons, and Gibbons, March 25, 1960, Oral History Tape Number 1.

53 Jess Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, March 4, 1971, Oral History Tape Number 71, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

HENSLEY FLATS AND THE FAMILY SETTLEMENT OF HENSLEYS, GIBBONSES, AND ALLIED FAMILIES (1903–1951)

When the Hensleys, Gibbonses, and allied families arrived on the land atop Brush Mountain, they brought with them lives centered around two important concepts—the value of kinship and the desire to apply their agricultural knowledge to their new homesteads. Based on these concepts, they implemented a subsistence lifestyle that had already been widely practiced in Appalachia for well over a century.

The family tree shows the close connections and interrelated families that reinforced the strong bonds that held Hensley Settlement together for decades (**Figure 2-1**). Burton Hensley Sr. and James Madison Hensley were siblings, and both had many children. Burton's daughter Nicey Ann married James Madison's son Sherman. Another important connection to make is that Burton had a son named Andrew Jackson Hensley, and his daughter Nancy later married Willie Gibbons.[54] Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons were part of the generation that would lead the way in occupying the land that each of them accumulated through intermarriage, bequest, and the purchase of additional land from Burton Hensley Sr.

According to the archival record, Burton Hensley Sr. purchased the five-hundred-acre tract in May 1903 and then sold one hundred acres to Jackson Hensley and just over thirty-eight acres to Sherman Hensley. The remaining acreage was surveyed in 1906 by Mr. M. M. Speak and subdivided into sixteen shares of roughly equal size—approximately twenty-one acres per tract (**Figures 2-2, 2-3 and 2-4**). Not all of his children moved to Brush Mountain, however. Some chose to sell to their siblings or allowed the land to be farmed by their siblings and relatives, as is detailed in the Sherman Hensley Tract 206 deed pages.[55]

Since Burton Hensley Sr. had been the purchaser and distributor of the land, his surname became attached to the settlement that developed, which was first called Hensley Flats on the 1954 US Geological Survey (USGS). Later, Hensley Settlement was referred to as a cultural community and assemblage. USGS maps show the plateau as Hensley Flats at approximately 3,250 feet above sea level, falling off in steep descents toward the Virginia state line to the south and less steeply on the Kentucky side. The headwaters of Shillalah Creek, which drains west, and Martins Fork, which flows east, begin at the southern edge of Hensley Settlement. In the original five-hundred-acre survey, the headwaters of these two creeks were well within the boundaries of the plot. The older survey map used trees and geological features, such as certain large stones and boulders, to define boundary points. On the far western edge of Sherman Hensley's thirty-eight-acre tract is a point labeled "still house." It appears that by the time the deed document was recorded in 1906, Sherman Hensley had already established the means to produce moonshine on the far western edge of his property.

Sherman Hensley was the first to arrive in December 1903, followed by Willie Gibbons as well as Al, Jackson, and Herbert [Bert] Hensley in the spring of 1904. Both Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons initially lived in existing cabins, which were the structures that had been left by Nichols and his extended family.[56] Such regional vernacular architecture was relatively easy to construct, and materials were readily available. Although there were many challenges in Appalachian life, the culture is often romanticized. Williams, however, captures some aspects of the lifestyle and describes how they came to be widely appreciated in America. He notes, in particular, the significance of log architecture:

> The log house is the most enduring symbol of Appalachia. It speaks to the resourcefulness and hard work of pioneer inhabitants and the role that the great Appalachian forest played in the region's development. Along with mountain music, handmade quilts, and other craft objects, log architecture also represents metropolitan America's embrace of mountain people during the twentieth century and the depiction of their culture

54 For census records and further research on the ancestry of the Hensleys and contemporary families, please see appendix B.

55 See appendix C for portions of deeds and grants from Bales, Hensley, and Gibbons.

56 Hensley, Gibbons, and Gibbons, March 25, 1960, Oral History Tape Number 1; Lige Gibbons and Mrs. Willie Gibbons, interview by Hobart G. Cawood, March 25, 1960, Oral History Tape Number 2, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

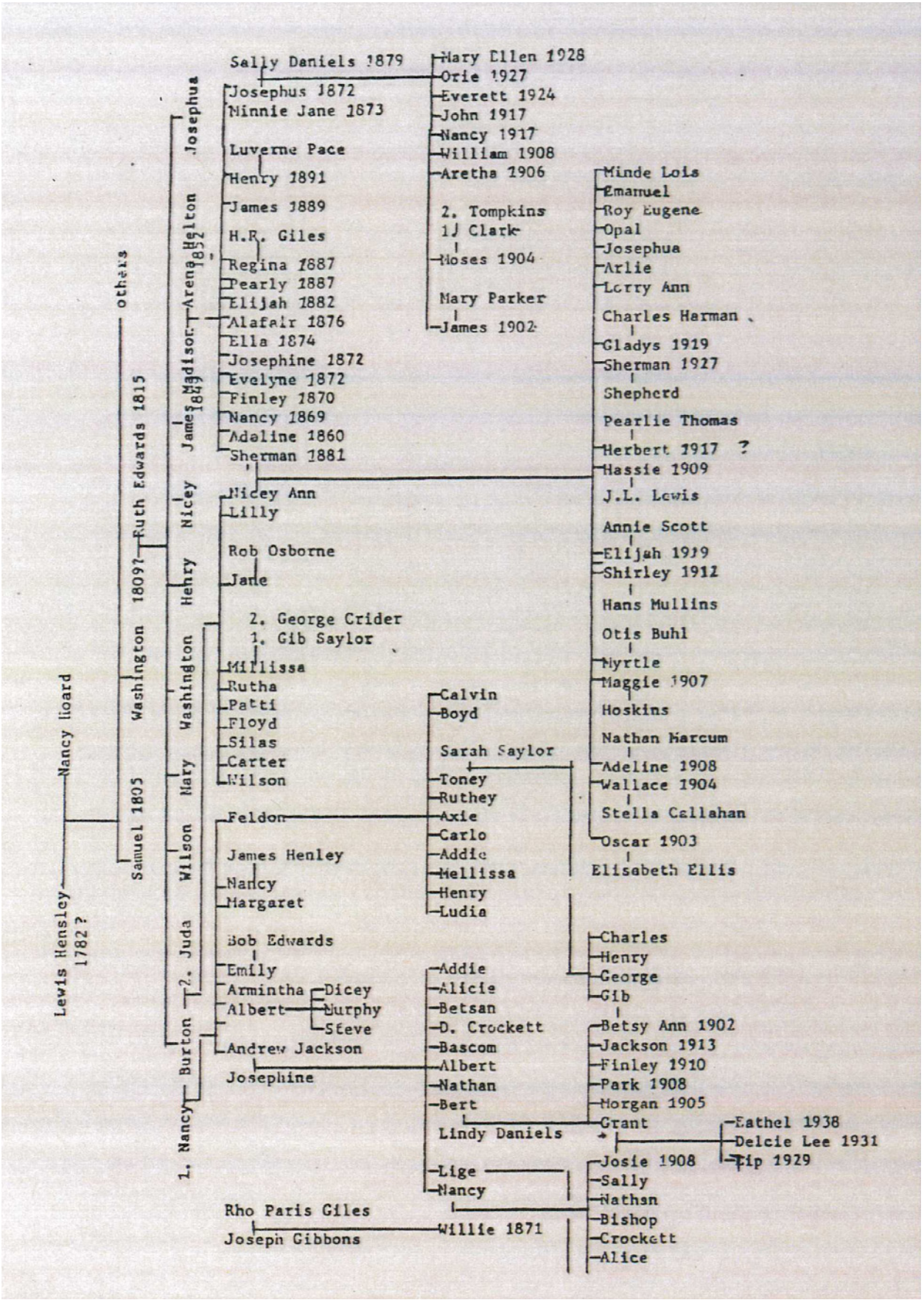


FIGURE 2–1. Hensley-Gibbons family tree. Note the Willie Gibbons and Sherman Hensley lines, whose families were on the farm for decades. Source: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586

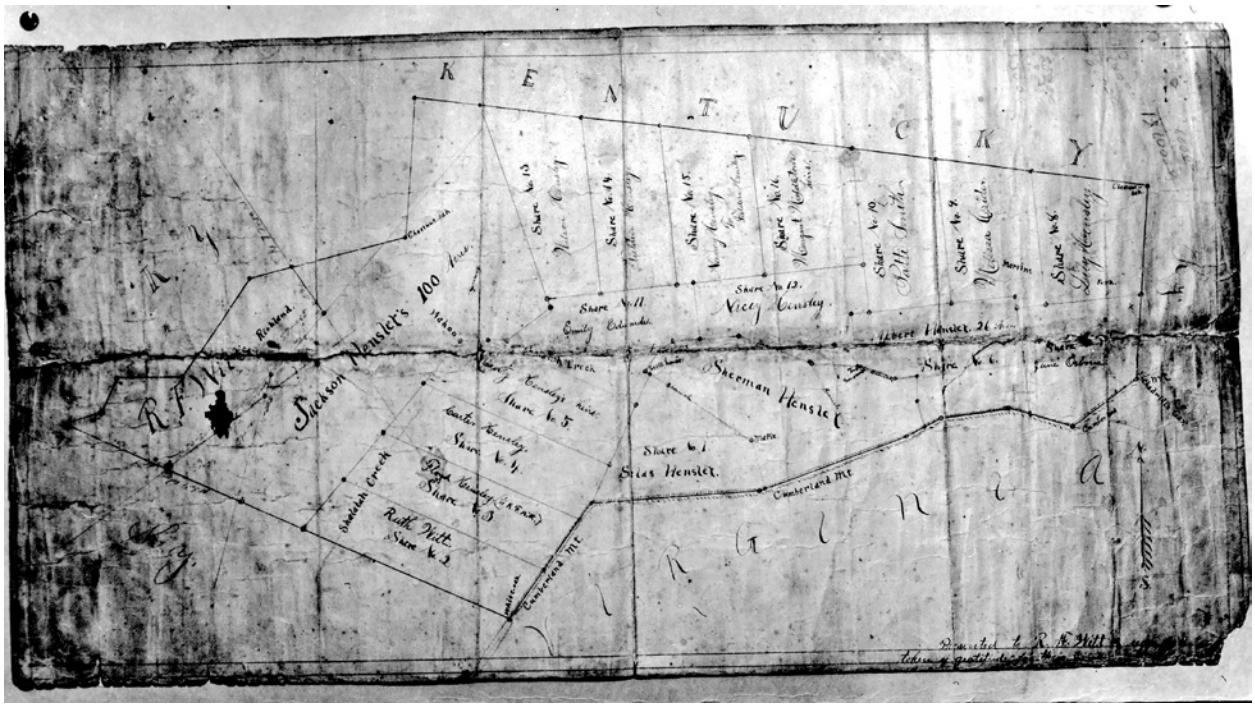


FIGURE 2–2. 1906 survey by M. M. Speak showing divisions of property belonging to Burton Hensley Sr. Source: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586

> and lifeways as emblems of what was noble and quaint in the national past and worthy and needful (or degraded and fearful) in the present.[57]

Immediately upon occupation, the different family members began to clear, cultivate, and establish the collection of family farmsteads that would create the tout ensemble of log cabins, barns, fenced gardens, pastures, homesteads, and associated rustic structures that made their farms working landscapes. Willie Gibbons and "Feland" (Feldon) Hensley built their cabins in 1905.[58] Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons lived in existing structures (the Nichols cabins) while they were building their cabins. Construction typically occurred through joint "workings," during which the men would all gather and prepare the required logs and the women would cook the meals and quilt. Thus everyone worked together to quickly erect and build a cabin or barn. Barns required more laborers, as the logs had to be lifted higher due to the taller structure of a barn. Smaller structures were often constructed by the individual owners or residents of the landholding.[59]

Most families were large. Some offspring did not live to adulthood, and there are many children buried in the family cemetery at the Settlement. Sherman and Nicey Ann Hensley had nineteen children, while Willie and Nancy Gibbons had twelve children. In her book about the lives of rural women between 1919 and 1941, historian Melissa Walker states that children often provided the additional labor needed to produce an adequate food supply within a subsistence farming community. She writes, "Most family farms … depended on the free labor of family members in order to expand and prosper. As a result, new babies were not simply additional mouths to feed but were also important [future] resources."[60]

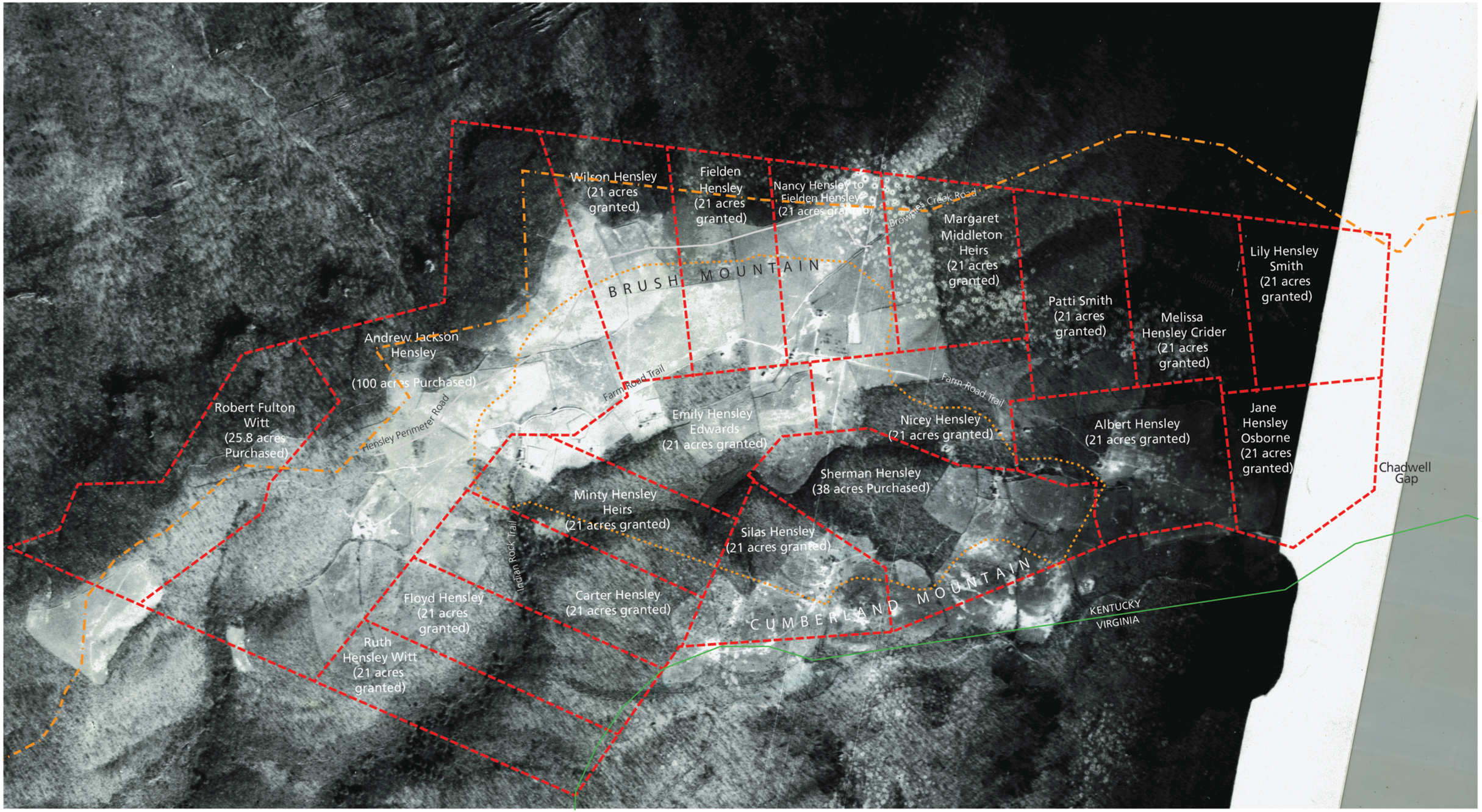
Part of the reason that families needed to expand their gardens and pastures was to feed their rapidly expanding families. With each additional child, more clothing and more food and water were necessary, and that meant more work. Some tasks were carried out by the children themselves; in general, children of farm families regularly completed repetitive tasks that did not require close adult supervision. For instance, once the gardens were plowed and hilled up for corn, children often carried the seed corn and planted it in hills of three kernels per small

57 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 5.

58 Morse, "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture," 9.

59 Morse, "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture," 9.

60 Melissa Walker, *All We Knew Was to Farm: Rural Women in the Upcountry South* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000), 44.



Cultural Landscape Report
Hensley Settlement 1906 Survey Overlaid on 1939 Aerial

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park
Bell County, KY

Notes

1. Methodology: The 1939 aerial map showing the location of Shillalah Creek, Martins Fork, and Chadwell Gap was overlaid on the GIS data provided by NPS. The GIS data was exported to CAD where the survey was scaled to equal 500 acres, and then it was aligned based on the same geographic features demarcated on the survey.

Sources

1.1939 Aerial Photography, CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5585
2. Boundaries, National Park Service, 2018.
3. 1906 M.M. Speak Survey for Burton Hensley, 500 Acres on Brush Mountain, CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586
4. Hensley Settlement Farm Management Map, CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586
5. CUGA Deeds, CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap, LandFX CAD and Illustrator, 2020.

1906 Survey Boundary

Hensley Settlement Historict District Boundry

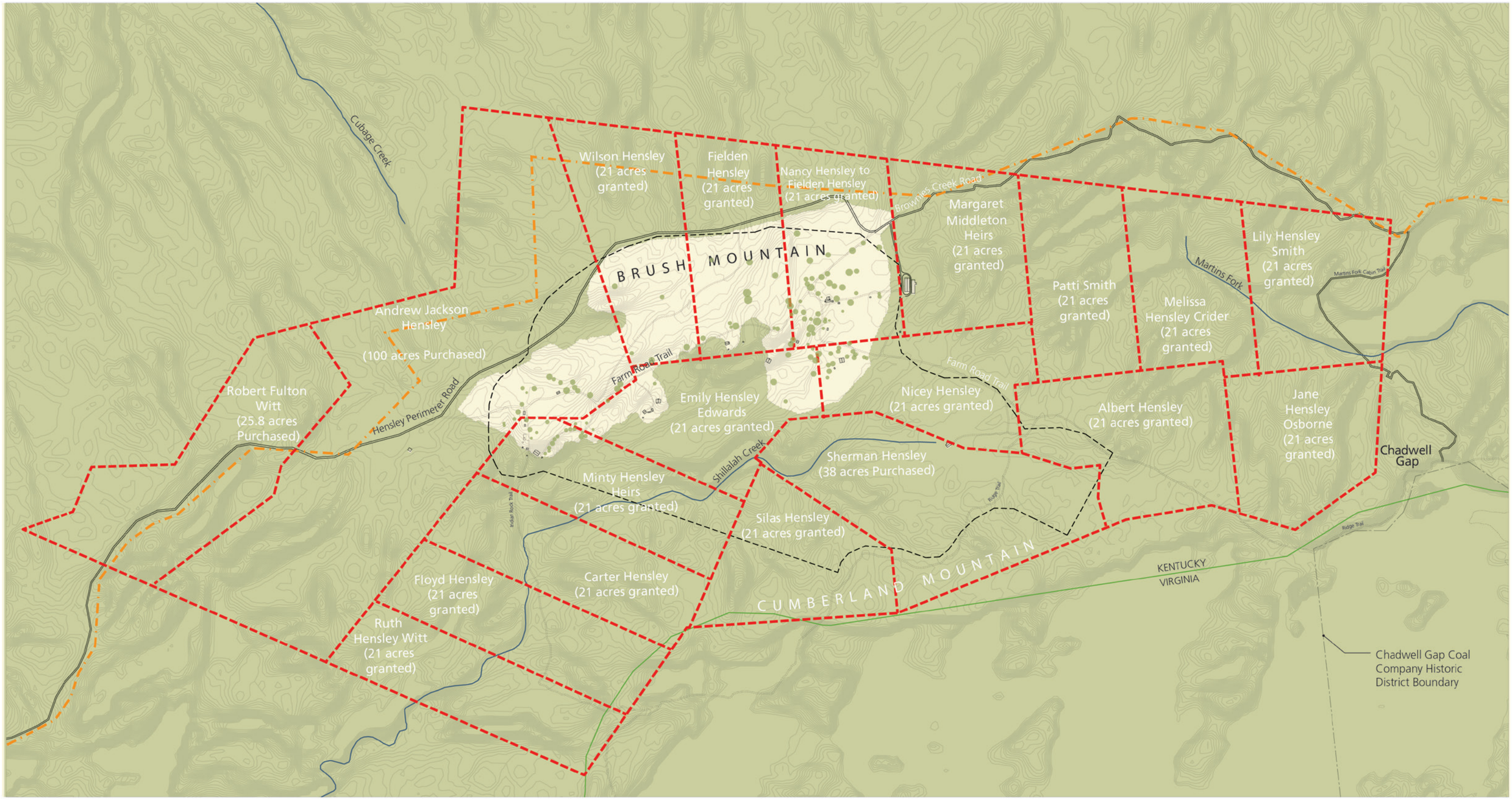
CUGA Boundary

State Boundary

0 600' 1200' N

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LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

FIGURE 2–3. 1906 Hensley Settlement aerial survey map. Source: STA



Cultural Landscape Report
Hensley Settlement 1906 Survey Overlaid on 1939 Aerial

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Notes

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Sources

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5. CUGA Deeds, CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap, LandFX CAD and Illustrator, 2020.

Legend

- Hensley Settlement Historic District
- 1906 Map 500 Acre Parcels
- Creeks and Streams
- State Line
- Gravel Road
- Trails
- Buildings
- 10ft Contours
- Woods
- Trees
- Pasture
- CUGA Park Boundary

0 600' 1200' N

FIGURE 2–4. 1906 Hensley Settlement illustrative survey map. Source: STA

suzanne turner ASSOCIATES
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

mound. This practice is recorded in the oral history collection.

Growth of the Settlement

As early as the 1910s and certainly by the 1920s, the plateau atop Brush Mountain was no longer pastoral in the way it had been during the Bales ownership. The land reflected the various ownership interests and practices of the families that settled it in the early 1900s. The following is a review of the census data during the five decades of family occupation; this section delineates which families are allied and which are neighboring.

The 1910 census shows different addresses for Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons, who were among the first to move to Hensley Settlement in the early 1900s. The census lists the family of Sherman Hensley as living on "Brush Mountain Road" and the family of William "Willie" Gibbons as living on "Cubage Road." The same census indicates that several families related to or allied with the Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons families also lived on or near Brush Mountain. The allied family of Jack Hensley and the neighboring Green, Wilson, Lee, and Wilder families are listed as living on Cubage Road. The allied families of Bascom Hensley, Toney Hensley, A. L. [Albert] Hensley, Herbert [Bert] Hensley, John Saylor, and Levi Saylor and the neighboring family of W. S. Miracle are listed as living on Brush Mountain Road. Neither the Cubage nor the Brush Mountain Road addresses specifically describe the area atop Hensley Flats.

The total number of residents ranged from 55 to 91. The 1910 census lists 43 residents living at the Brush Mountain Road address—26 members of the Hensley family, 11 members of the allied Saylor family (who appear to be the son and grandson of Melissa Crider, daughter of Burton Hensley Sr., who was one of the original grantees of the five-hundred-acre Bales tract), and 6 members of the neighboring Miracle family. The census lists a total of 48 residents living at the Cubage Road address—8 members of the Willie Gibbons family and 4 members of the Jackson Hensley family (who all moved to Brush Mountain) as well as 13 members of the Green family, 9 members each of the Wilson and Lee families, and 5 members of the Wilder family. Counting only the Gibbonses and Hensleys of Cubage Road, the total residents living on Brush Mountain would have been around 55 people. If the neighboring families are also counted, the total number of people living on and around Brush Mountain would have been 91.

The 1920 census also lists known families of Hensley Settlement under two addresses: "Brush Mountain Road" and "Brush and Cumberland Mountains." The total residents could have ranged from 61 to 77 people. Those listed as living on Brush Mountain Road included 27 residents: the allied families of Bascom Hensley (9 members), Tone [Toney] Hensley (6 members), and Sherman Hensley (12 members). A second census sheet lists 40 residents, which included the allied families of Herbert [Bert] Hensley (7 members), Gilbert Hensley (5 members), Lissie Hensley (5 members), Willie Gibbons (10 members), Andrew Saylor (3 members), and Jackson Hensley (4 members) as well as the neighboring families of Sam Wilder (4 members), Jeff Wilder (9 members), and Andrew Miracle (3 members), as living on "Brush and Cumberland Mountains." At that time it was not possible to decipher which of the Wilders and Miracles lived at the Settlement, and therefore the number of residents ranged from 61 to 77. The major occupation during this period was general farming, with some section work on the railroad.

The total number of residents living on Brush Mountain in 1930 was 49. The census record more simply lists them as residents of "Brush Mountain Top." The residents listed include the allied families of Jackson Hensley (4 members), Elijah Hensley (5 members), Grant Hensley (3 members), Willie Gibbons (7 members), Oscar Hensley (5 members), Wallace Hensley (2 members), Sherman Hensley (7 members), Wash Osborne (4 members), and Herbert [Bert] Hensley (12 members). Notably, Herbert [Bert] Hensley listed three families as "lodgers" who lived with him—the families of Levi Wilson (3 members), Columbia Boatrite (2 members), and Dora Rally (2 members). Of the families that lived on the mountain at that time, Willie Gibbons, Sherman Hensley, and Herbert [Bert] Hensley are the only heads of household listed as owning their houses; all others are listed as renting cabins. The major occupation listed in the 1930 census was truck farming.

The 1940 census also does not list addresses, thus only the grouping of people who were known to have lived on Brush Mountain were selected for this count, which totals 51 people. The families included

Oscar Hensley (7 members), Sherman Hensley (2 members), Herbert [Bert] Hensley (6 members), Lige Hensley (5 members), W. B. Hensley (2 members), Park Hensley (3 members), Finley Hensley (8 members), Willie Givens [Gibbons] (6 members including Jackson Hensley, his father-in-law), Grant Hensley (5 members), and Lige Givens [Gibbons] (7 members). Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons are the only people listed as owning their houses. Willie Gibbons and W. B. Hensley are listed as farmers, and all other heads of household are listed as coal miners.

Census data records only the point in time at the turn of each decade, so it is difficult to know with certainty how many people were living at Hensley Settlement in the years between census accounts. Further research on the family genealogy may help to determine whether residents who lived in close proximity to the site could have been related descendants. The researchers, however, could not definitively determine the extent of the familial connections.

Life at Hensley Settlement

As soon as a family arrived and had a place to live, they turned to the work of food production. In a subsistence lifestyle with little cash, it was necessary to grow fruits and vegetables, glean nuts and wild fruits from the surrounding woods and forests, and raise livestock or hunt meat for the table. Depending on the season, much of each day was spent planting, cultivating, harvesting, and preserving food.

When the ground thawed in the spring, it was plowed.[61] The ground was then raked and smoothed, and the rows were prepared for planting. Planting occurred as soon as the danger of frost had passed, typically during the first two weeks of May. The field crops grown were corn, hay, sorghum, and oats.[62] Such field crops were primarily used to feed livestock and to produce moonshine. Potatoes were a staple food at the Settlement and were planted in the spring and in the fall for an early and late crop. Cabbage was an important vegetable grown in the gardens because it kept through the winter if it was partially uprooted, pushed over, and covered with snow as insulation. Other garden crops were beets, turnips, squash, pumpkins, tomatoes, carrots, onions, radishes, cucumbers, muskmelons, rutabagas, peas, peppers, okra, lettuce, watermelon, climbing beans among the corn, and bush beans in the garden. Each family maintained a garden. Gilbert Hensley states that he kept a garden that was roughly one acre.[63] Sherman Hensley states that the women and children maintained the gardens—planting, hoeing, harvesting, and preserving.[64]

There is little mention in the oral histories of pesticides or inorganic fertilizers used in the gardens or fields in the early years of settlement.[65] Bugs were picked by hand in the early years, and fertilizing crops consisted of spreading manure from the barns. Later, the residents began to use insecticides for bean and potato bugs. Jess Gibbons refers to a fertilizer used in the cornfields called 3-5-6, which was the nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium ratio.[66] Corn is a notoriously heavier feeder, so it is logical that they would have concentrated fertilization efforts on the corn specifically once chemical fertilizers and amendments were widely available.

Fruit was also an important food source at Hensley Settlement. According to the oral histories, the first apple trees planted at the Settlement came from traveling salesmen from the Stark Brothers Nurseries and Orchards Company.[67] Founded in 1816, the Stark Brothers utilized a network of salesmen who traveled the countryside selling and taking orders for various kinds of fruit trees. The company was instrumental in the spread of apple seedlings and root stock, along with peach, pear, plum, and other miscellaneous fruit trees. At

61 Sherman Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, July 16, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 24, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

62 Lige Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 5, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 9, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

63 Gilbert Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, September 3, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 57, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

64 Sherman Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, July 16, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 26, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

65 Wallace Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 11, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

66 Jess Gibbons, March 4, 1971, Oral History Tape Number 71.

67 Herbert [Bert] Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, May 28, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 7, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historic Park, Middlesboro, KY.

Hensley Settlement, the Stark Brothers agent rode up the mountain on horseback. Many agents carried a quantity of bare-root apple stock with them and sold directly to the farmers. In addition, they took orders that were shipped from the main nursery, located in Louisiana, Missouri.[68]

Herbert [Bert] Hensley recalls that at the Settlement "we had winesap apple, we had delicious, we had the old-timey lock apple, some called 'em brown apple, some called 'em benom [bantam]."[69] Jess Gibbons recalls that "they had the lock apple, and the Red Ben Davis, Black Ben Davis, and … then what they call the rays of Green, little sweet apples, and the big sweet apples...."[70] Fruit trees were a fundamental part of most farmsteads, and apples in particular were popular, as they were easier to store in an apple hole or cellar and could be processed through drying, canning, producing cider, and making apple butter. Sherman Hensley stated that he kept a small orchard of apples and peaches, and he remarked that they made apple butter.[71] Willie Gibbons kept an orchard "with black and red Ben Davis apples, lock apples, Winesap, and delicious apples as well as 200 peach trees."[72] Jess Gibbons stated in an oral history interview that his father's orchard was about a half acre and contained thirty to thirty-five trees, and he thought the spacing was about forty feet apart. He also noted that his father would replace dying trees with a young tree and that one or two trees were replaced each year.[73]

Although the settlers sold some vegetables and livestock, they did not sell their apples. The apple butters, apple ciders, and dried apples seem to have been coveted as an immediate source of sweetness. Generally, they were planted on steep hillsides, trees were trimmed every other year, and an orchard grass or clover was planted beneath them to keep the weeds back. The trees did not need to be watered or fertilized; thus, they were a low-maintenance part of the farm that provided a commodity that helped sustain the farmers and their families. These trees would typically have been planted on steep hillsides where traditional row agriculture would have been difficult.

Chestnuts were also important to the Hensley residents, as the nuts provided food for residents, mast for game animals, and additional income in the fall. The annual chestnut harvest was also consumed by livestock as they roamed in the surrounding woods. Each farmer marked his pigs with a certain cut of the ear before they were allowed to roam the mountain to forage for food such as chestnuts, acorns, and grass. In this way, the settlers could raise pigs that could be sold without having to feed them grain. Grain could instead be used to produce cornmeal or whiskey.[74] During the first few decades of the Settlement, the farmers fed the pigs corn only in the last two weeks before sale. Herbert [Bert] Hensley stated that "we'd kill maybe three or four some years just off of the chestnuts and the acorns. We raised them right in the woods without anything on them, they'd be just as fat as if you'd fed them corn all their life."[75]

Family accounts relay that the younger members of the family gathered sacks of chestnuts each fall, brought them down the mountain into the surrounding communities, and sold them to local merchants.[76] Jess Gibbons recalled that they sometimes brought the chestnuts to the foot of the mountain, where they met a merchant by the name of Henry Giles. Mr. Giles paid two dollars per bushel for the nuts.[77]

68 Jess Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, March 1, 1971, Oral History Tape Number 74, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historic Park, Middlesboro, KY.

69 Herbert [Bert] Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, July 9, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 22, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

70 Jess Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, September 10, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 62, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

71 Hensley, July 16, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 26.

72 Bernard Goodman, "Interpretive Prospectus for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park" (Washington, DC: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1971), B-13–B-14.

73 Jess Gibbons, March 1, 1971, Oral History Tape Number 74.

74 Hensley, Gibbons, and Gibbons, March 25, 1960, Oral History Tape Number 1.

75 Herbert [Bert] Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, May 28, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 6, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

76 Stella Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 18, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY; Hillary Wilder, interview by Robert W. Munck, August 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 49, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

77 Jess Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, February 18, 1971, Oral History Tape Number 67, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historic Park, Middlesboro, KY.

Each year they sold a quantity of chickens in the surrounding towns, usually in the fall in order to reduce the number that they would need to feed and carry over during the winter.[78] Most households also kept sheep. Farmers sheared the sheep each spring, and they carded, spun, or sold the wool in bulk to local mills. One mill was located in Ewing, Virginia; there they sold raw wool to a wholesaler who then shipped it to other mills to be further processed.[79] As mentioned earlier, residents sold corn whiskey to miners and to others in the surrounding communities; this was a year-round source of income. In the spring, they raised a large quantity of potatoes. Lige Gibbons stated that they received "about a dollar a bushel" at the end of spring when the potatoes were harvested.[80] Willie Gibbons and Gary Hensley, a relative mentioned in the oral histories, made chairs, baskets, settees, and other wooden items that were then taken off the mountain and sold.[81] Some members of the Settlement knew where ginseng *Panax ginseng* was located on the mountain, and this provided them with another source of supplemental income.[82] The women and children picked wild huckleberries in the spring and sold them off the mountain to surrounding communities.[83] In addition, some customers traveled up the mountain to Hensley Settlement to buy corn as well as Irish and sweet potatoes.[84]

Itinerant preachers visited Hensley Settlement, especially during the summer months, when services were conducted outdoors. The primary denominations were Primitive Baptist, Dunkard, Methodist, and Holiness.[85] Services were not held every weekend but happened periodically, with some services on Saturday and some on Sunday. On occasion, large crowds of four hundred to five hundred people attended the services. Worshippers traveled up the mountain and stayed with friends or family. An annual event at Hensley Settlement was Decoration Day, typically held the second Sunday in June. Attendees would congregate under trees, while a series of preachers would address a crowd of three hundred to four hundred. Services lasted most of the day. Then the crowds would head to the cemetery and decorate graves "with wild flowers such as honeysuckle, wild iris, and wild ivy."[86] Morse's study of the oral history tapes reveals that the settlers had ambivalent feelings about religion. Herbert [Bert] Hensley, in his interview in 1970 with Robert W. Munck, stated that "only three families had confessed salvation, Willie Gibbons, Lige Gibbons, and Stella Hensley. The rest were sinners, but we got along with no trouble—we were just like a big family."[87] Preachers also came to Hensley Flats to conduct funeral services whenever there was a death and the burial was to be at the cemetery on the mountain. The services typically took place in the school house, especially if the death happened in the winter.

The oral histories reveal that most community members believed that the residents were generally healthy, although diseases such as pneumonia and tuberculosis did occur, especially in the era before the widespread availability of antibiotics. Most illnesses were treated homeopathically, using herbs and medicinals that grew wild and were cultivated in family gardens.[88] Snakebites were treated

78 Lige Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 5, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 10, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

79 Herbert [Bert] Hensley, May 28, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 6.

80 Lige Gibbons, June 5, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 9; Herbert [Bert] Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, July 9, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 19, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

81 Herbert [Bert] Hensley, July 9, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 19.

82 Wallace Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 13, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historic Park, Middlesboro, KY.

83 Stella Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 17, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historic Park, Middlesboro, KY.

84 Sherman Hensley, July 16, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 24.

85 Morse, "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture," 39; Stella Hensley, June 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 17.

86 Morse, "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture," 39; Jess Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, September 10, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 61, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

87 Morse, "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture," 39; Herbert [Bert] Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, May 28, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 5, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY; Herbert [Bert] Hensley, July 9, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 19.

88 Morse, "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture,"40; Herbert [Bert] Hensley, July 9, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 22; Jess Gibbons, September 10, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 61; Mrs. Charles Muncey, interview by Bernard Goodman, October 24, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 63, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

by "bleeding the bite" and using whiskey and kerosene.[89] There is no record of any of the residents dying from snakebites.[90] Residents pointed out that snakes were not common around the cabins, at the Brush Mountain School House, or in areas where cattle and hogs roamed. Most snakes were in the surrounding woods and were encountered when hunting, harvesting logs for construction, or walking the roads up the mountain into Hensley Settlement.[91]

When the Hensley and Gibbons families first arrived in the area, passage up to the Settlement was by horseback or mule. There was no road, merely a trail leading from the north on what is now called Brownies Creek Road. They later improved the trail into what is called a sled road. When the residents needed to transport goods that could not be carried on horseback, they used a sled with two angled wooden runners. During the active years of the Settlement, the roads to Cubage, Kentucky, and to Rosehill, Virginia, were never navigable by wagon or car.[92]

Morse's 1975 thesis on Hensley Settlement summarizes the construction and operation of the mill structures. The information contained in the summation is derived from two sources—a 1960 oral history interview with Sherman Hensley and a follow-up interview or interviews that Morse conducted with Sherman at his home in Virginia. Morse states,

> The mills were designed and built by the settlers themselves without outside assistance. The mill house was built of logs set on a cut stone foundation and the machinery was almost entirely made of wood except for metal straps and fittings which Willie Gibbons made in his blacksmith shop. The mill-stones were bought from Bill Wilson of Bell County and a man named Fowler in Harlan County, Kentucky. The bottom millstone rested on a central pivot while the top rock, also known as the running rock, was fastened to the drive shaft and supplied power from the water wheel. The water wheel was also made of wood with iron bands holding it together. The millpond, where the kinetic energy to drive the wheel was stored, was produced by building a dam across the creek. Both dams were made of logs hewed on the water side and covered with boards over the cracks. The logs were about thirty-five feet long and the bottom log was set into the creek bed. Trenches in the creek bank at either end held the logs in place. The Martins Fork dam backed up a pond of about fifty to sixty feet and about six feet deep while the Shillalah Creek dam had about the same depth but backed up only thirty to forty feet. The ponds ran dry occasionally during late summer, but the settlers ground enough corn ahead to avoid running out of meal. Generally, however, they were able to grind corn year around, and everyone in the settlement used the mills toll free. The ponds were also used as swimming holes and as a baptismal pool.[93]

In the same Morse interviews, Sherman Hensley also elaborated on the location of the mills, providing insight into the original location of his homestead:

> The first mill was located on Martins Fork Creek about one-half mile from Sherman's house. Later the settlers found that there was a better water supply in Shillalah Creek, so they built one there too. The Shillalah Creek mill and the Martins Fork mill were about the same distance from Sherman's house. The Shillalah Creek mill was closer to the rest of the farms of the settlement, so most people used it.[94]

An examination of the half-mile distance from Sherman Hensley's home to both Martins Fork and Shillalah Creek shows that his home place,

89 Morse, "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture," 41; Herbert [Bert] Hensley, July 9, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 22.

90 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, and Lige Gibbons, March 25, 1960, Oral History Tape Number 1.

91 Stella Hensley, June 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 18.

92 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, and Lige Gibbons, March 25, 1960, Oral History Tape Number 1.

93 Morse, "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture," 19–20; Sherman Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, July 30, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 32, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

94 Morse, "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture," 19–20; Sherman Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, July 30, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 32, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

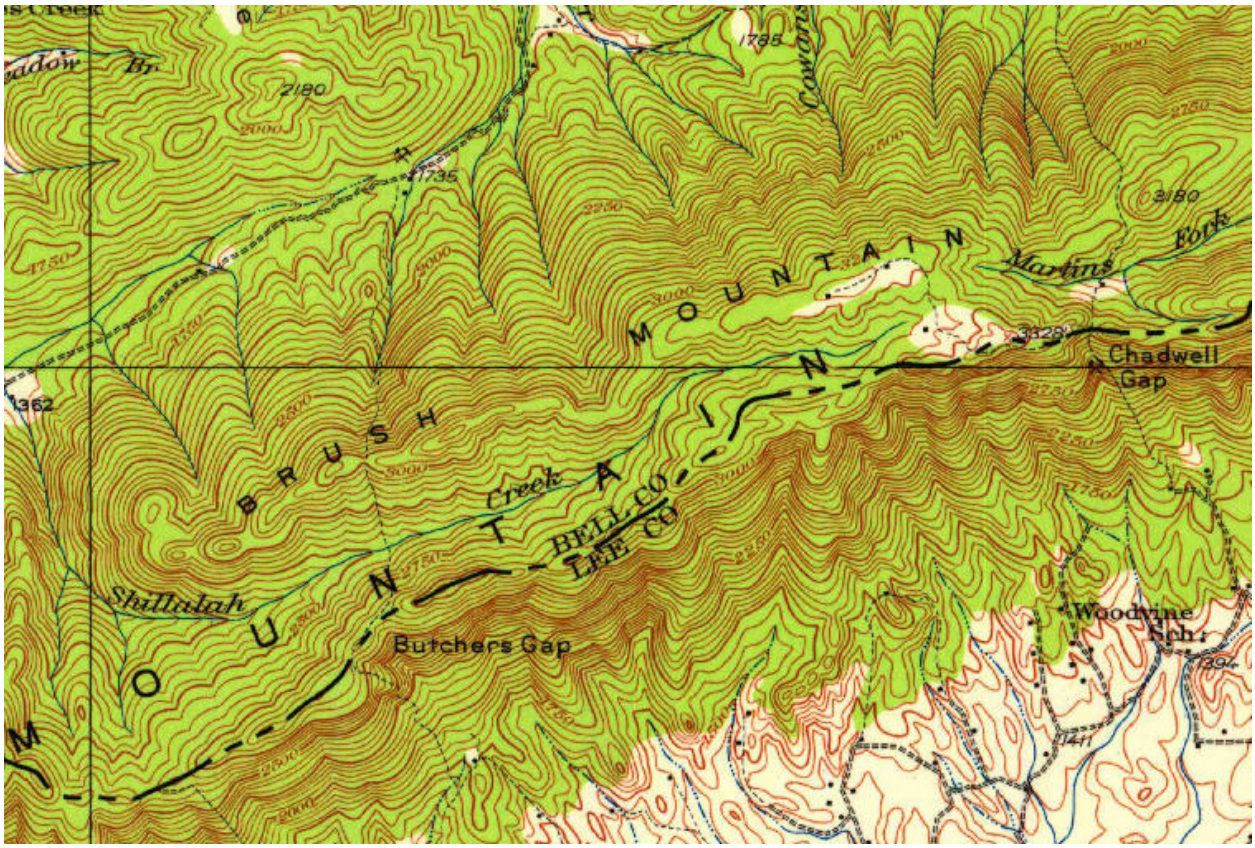


FIGURE 2–5. 1927 USGS map of the area of Hensley Settlement, Middlesboro Quadrangle. Source: USGS

where the Martins Fork dam would have been, falls outside the Hensley Settlement Historic District. Between Sherman's house and Shillalah Creek, however, a distance of a half mile would place the mill site and any remaining ruins within the historic district. STA site visits in October 2018 and in July 2019 led to unsuccessful searches for any ruins or remains of a mill site. But additional features were located during the 2019 visit: a linear rock pile north of Hensley Perimeter Road near the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, a stacked stone pile slightly to the east that resembles a weir, an unidentified structure located near the Sherman Hensley Farmstead, and a single mature apple tree located between the Lige Gibbons and Finley Hensley Farmsteads on the southern bank of the seasonal creek.

Chadwell Gap

The 1927 USGS image (**Figure 2-5**) of the plateau of Brush Mountain shows Hensley Settlement with the trail from the Virginia side of the mountain. It was established by "local residents to cross the rugged terrain at Chadwell Gap, a break in the Cumberland Mountain ridgeline that offers a gentler ascent to the summit at approximately 3,385 feet AMSL."[95] The trail forks to the left at Chadwell Gap up to the top of the Settlement.

Proximity to coal mines and to the railroads was important for family income. The oral histories reveal that residents caught the railroad at Caylor's Stop at the base of the trail and at Ewing, Virginia, where there was a train depot. The railroad that runs through these two locations is the L&N. In the 1920 census records, twenty-one-year-old Oscar Hensley, son of Sherman Hensley, and Elijah and Frank Gibbons, sons of Willie and Nancy Gibbons, are listed as "section" workers on the railroad.[96] Section workers walked the tracks, manually adjusting and straightening sections of railroad to keep them in alignment so that trains would not derail. Section work on the railroads was considered extremely difficult work, on par with coal mining in the exertion that was required of workers.

95 Deborah Slaton, Liz Sargent, and Mike Ford, *Chadwell Gap Coal Company Site Determination of Eligibility—95% Draft* (Northbrook, IL: Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates Inc., 2011), 2.

96 See appendix B for 1920 census records.

Coal mining was first listed as an occupation for the men of Hensley Settlement in the 1940 census. The nearby Chadwell Gap Coal Company, which operated from 1922 to 1943, provided employment for several members of Hensley Settlement, including Oscar Hensley, Sherman Hensley, Herbert [Bert] Hensley, Liege Hensley, W. B. Hensley, Park Hensley, Finley Hensley, Grant Hensley, and Lige Gibbons. They could ride horses or walk the trail to the mine just over the Virginia state line in Lee County.

The mine had a horizontal entrance called an adit,[97] and the mine itself was called a wagon mine due to the lack of machinery within the mine. Almost all work was done by hand, along with the aid of blasting caps to loosen the coal for extraction into a wagon. The wagon was then rolled out on tracks to a tipple, or sequence of buckets on an aerial tram, that was loaded with coal and sent down the side of the mountain to a loading area below.[98] The residents also used the trail that went by the mine when they went to the surrounding towns of Rose Hill and Ewing, Virginia.[99] The Chadwell Gap Coal Company mine was the closest means of earning income from public work, which is what residents called work that was done away from the Settlement. When the mine closed during World War II, family members had to travel farther distances to access work in other coal mines in the surrounding communities, and this was likely a contributing factor in the decision of some family members to leave the Settlement.

Departure from Hensley Settlement

At the end of the family tenure in 1951, several elements of the overall landscape had declined. Possibly the most serious environmental impact that affected the Settlement was the arrival, no later than the 1930s, of the chestnut blight (*Cryphonectria parasitica*). Chestnut blight is a fungus that invades the bark of the chestnut tree, resulting in slow to rapid death of the main trunk. Williams states that

> perhaps the most notorious ecological disaster to occur in the United States, [chestnut blight] destroyed one of the mainstays of the Appalachian forest, a tree whose role in human, animal, and plant ecology was irreplaceable. Chestnuts provided lumber and bark for construction, nuts that were unusual in their abundance and that were savored by humans and by domestic and wild animals alike, and a place in the forest canopy that was only gradually refilled by oaks and hickory trees.[100]

None of the former residents were able to recall exactly when the die-off of all the chestnut trees occurred, just that it happened over a period of several years. Cross-referencing genealogical information with an oral history by Jess Gibbons, the authors of this report were able to estimate the date of the decline of the chestnut overstory at Hensley Settlement. Jess states that he was old enough to join his brothers in the woods to gather sacks of chestnuts that the family then sold to Henry Giles in Middlesboro.[101] He believes he was a teenager when the chestnut decline began. Jess Gibbons was born on March 22, 1913,[102] So his teen years would have ranged from 1926 to 1931. Maps revealing the advance of the blight show it reaching the area between 1925 and 1935. Williams states that the blight was in the Virginia Blue Ridge by 1919 and in the Smokies by 1925.[103]

With the arrival of chestnut blight, the Settlement experienced a rapid decline in the amount of game on the mountain (**Figure 2-6**). Residents state that the number of squirrels, raccoons, wild turkey, and other game animals they had frequently hunted in the past quickly fell off. The blight also impacted their ability to raise hogs. Forest mast had provided the food in the fall that fattened the hogs. Residents noticed, when they rounded the hogs up in the fall, that they were not as healthy or fat as they had been before the blight. This would have required them to then use their corn in order to feed their hogs, corn that had previously been used to make moonshine or cornmeal. Instead, Jess Gibbons states, "Yea

97 Slaton, Sargent, and Ford, *Chadwell Gap Coal Company Site Determination of Eligibility*, 28.

98 Slaton, Sargent, and Ford, *Chadwell Gap Coal Company Site Determination of Eligibility*, 11.

99 Slaton, Sargent, and Ford, *Chadwell Gap Coal Company Site Determination of Eligibility*, 10.

100 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 298.

101 Jess Gibbons, February 18, 1971, Oral History Tape Number 67.

102 *Kentucky, Birth Index, 1911–1999*, s.v. "Jess Gibbons," Ancestry.com, 2006, ancestry.com. Original data: Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, *Kentucky Birth, Marriage, and Death Databases: Births 1911–1999* (Frankfort, KY: Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives).

103 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 298.

[the blight] just destroyed it all, when the chestnuts died…that just stopped the hog business."[104]

The end of the chestnut era coincides with numerous fires on Brush Mountain, a cultural event that probably had serious consequences for the future of the Settlement at the very time when residents were looking for additional sources of income to supplement their subsistence farming lifestyle. There is confusion in the oral histories about the number of large fires, but it appears that the primary fire that occurred at the Settlement happened in the spring of 1933, 1934, or 1935. The following excerpts from the oral histories recall some of the details about that fire.

Wallace Hensley, son of Sherman Hensley recalled one of the worst fires on the mountain: "That fire come in and it got my fencing. And the barn burn up and house or two burn up. Couldn't do nothing, couldn't do nothing with it."[105] When asked what year the fire occurred, he stated, "I guess that was about 'thirty-three or four, 'thirty-five." In Gilbert Hensley's oral history interview from 1970, he stated, "I've seed big fires up there."[106] He did not, however, state what year they occurred. Jess Gibbons, in his 1970 interview with park historian Robert W. Munck, stated, "Yeah, I remember one fire back in … well, it was in the thirties, sometime. In the spring of the year. And it burned up over a lot of the fields here and burned a lot of their fencing up. It come from off of Brownies Creek."[107] In 1971, when asked if he could remember any special fires at the settlement, he stated:

> I couldn't tell you what year it was, but it was in the spring of the year. It started off on Brownies Creek. Then it got in this mountain and then just burnt all over the top of this mountain. Burned a lot of their fences up, burned an orchard up where my daddy had got, I guess, maybe fifty or seventy-five bearing peach trees. Got in there and the grass was growed up through the summer, you know, and it was bad with weeds and grasses. It burned all over it and killed all of his orchard out.[108]

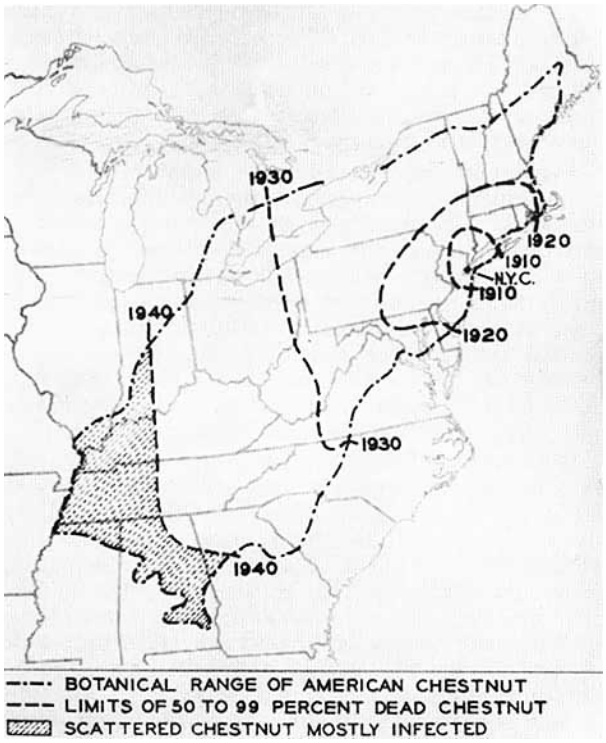


FIGURE 2–6. Map showing the advance and degree of death of chestnut trees at decadal intervals from 1910 to 1940. Source: Ross Shackleton

Several members of the family recalled this fire and date it to sometime in the 1930s. Robert W. Munck, in the 1970 interviews, refers to a 1950 fire and then asks the informant to verbally verify the date. Since that is the only mention of a large fire occurring in 1950, it is likely that is a mistake in the oral history record.

Fires, declining soil fertility, marriages, proximity to modern amenities, the death of the chestnut canopy, economic forces (including the decline in the coal mining business and in the extensive logging operations throughout the region), and the outbreak of World War II all resulted in an exodus from the Settlement and coalesced to damage the regional economy of Appalachia. At the beginning of American involvement in World War II in 1941, many younger members of the Hensley Settlement

104 Jess Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, March 1, 1971, Oral History Tape Number 73, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

105 Wallace Hensley, June 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 11.

106 Gilbert Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, September 3, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 58, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

107 Jess Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, September 10, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 59, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

108 Gibbons, February 18, 1971, Oral History Tape Number 67.

community moved off the mountain and obtained employment with companies that supported the war effort. It appears that many Appalachian mountain communities began to decline at about the same time. The reduction in population at Hensley Settlement coincides with the loss of population at Hollybush, Kentucky; Beech Creek, Kentucky; Cades Cove, Tennessee; and other communities that were originally bound by kinship or communal goals but isolated from the advances of the modern world. The death knell for these types of places was larger economic forces and changes in patterns of cultural associations along with the rise of smaller rural communities with access to better roads, railroad lines, and goods and services. Although family members left for various reasons, it was generally believed that job opportunities and living conditions were better off the mountain. William Cox, in his report on the Settlement, writes the following:

> Park Hensley's explanation summed it up when he said, "I got to working off in the (coal) mines and I just liked it better, you know, made more money… And that's what caused me to move off."
>
> Hubert Hensley was asked why he went off and his explanation was to the point. He said, "[I] married a girl off in Virginia and when I married her, I went back to Kentucky on the mountain, Hensley Settlement. But after a while she didn't want to agree to stay up there. So I just agreed to her." Hubert also said the biggest share of the people left because "work got pretty good, money was pretty good. The younger ones went to public jobs, the latter ones sold out to the park."[109]

Although a few members of the Hensley family still resided on Brush Mountain, land purchases by states had already begun. Throughout the period of decline in the late 1940s and the beginning of the 1950s, the Kentucky Park Commission acquired parcels from various family members.[110] In 1947, the governors of the three states that comprised the core of the Cumberland Gap region met in Middlesboro, Kentucky, and signed a cooperation agreement to appropriate funds and purchase land for the creation of CUGA.[111]

Migration from the mountaintop accelerated as the land was sold. With only two families remaining, Sherman Hensley states that he saw the last wild turkey at the Settlement in 1949.[112] This was also the year that Lige Gibbons left the Settlement.[113] Sherman Hensley, the last resident, left the Settlement in 1951 and moved to a new farm, where he continued a life similar to the one he had lived among his extended family at Hensley Settlement.

A photograph that appeared in *The Courier-Journal* in 1950 along with an article, titled "He Dwells in Loneliness," written by Joe Creason is the last image that shows Sherman Hensley while he still lived on Brush Mountain (**Figure 2-7**). The fences appear to be in poor condition, but the cabin in the background appears to be habitable. Sherman stands with his hand on what looks like a tall cedar stump with two dogs in the foreground. One of the most important quotes from the Creason article is this: "We had five sons and six daughters and whenever one married, they'd take over a plot of ground, build a cabin and set up housekeeping."[114] This implies that there may have been more cabin sites than are currently recorded in the historical or archeological record.

A second image published with the Creason article shows an overall Hensley Settlement landscape scene in 1950, the year before Sherman Hensley left Brush Mountain. In the photograph, structures, fences, and various trees are dotted throughout the landscape (**Figure 2-8**).

Finally, a third image published with the Creason article includes the caption, "From the almost flat land of Hensley Settlement atop the steep mountain

109 William E. Cox, *Hensley Settlement: A Mountain Community* (Cumberland Gap, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1977), 54–55.

110 Haskell, Blanton, and Speer, "Hensley Settlement Cultural Landscape Report (Draft)."

111 Ahlman, Guymon, and Herrmann, *Archaeological Overview and Assessment*," 19.

112 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, and Lige Gibbons, March 25, 1960, Oral History Tape Number 1.

113 Lige Gibbons and Mrs. Willie Gibbons, March 25, 1960, Oral History Tape Number 2.

114 Joe Creason, "He Dwells in Loneliness," *Courier-Journal* (Louisville, KY), September 17, 1950, accessed October 2, 2017, www.Newspapers.com, 59.

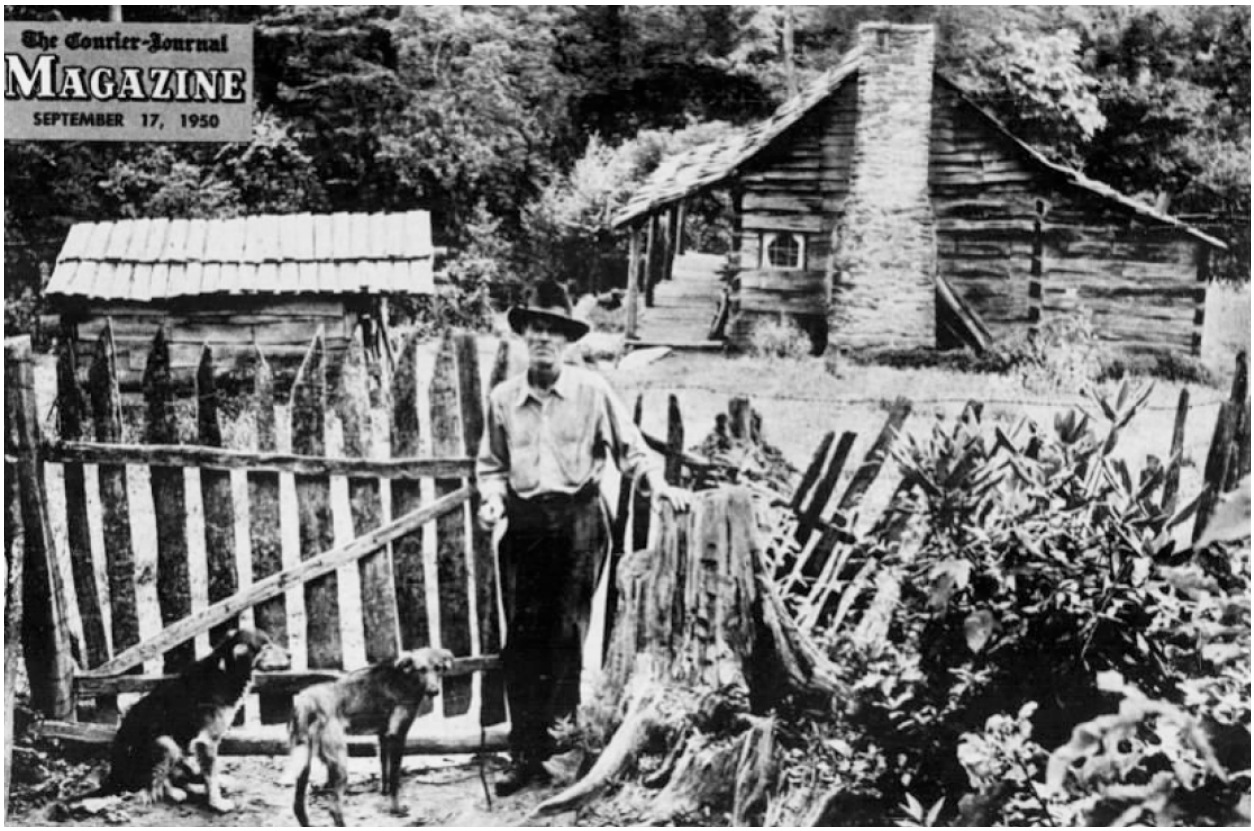


FIGURE 2–7. "Sherman Hensley stands in front of the hand-made fence that encircles his hand-made cabin. He is the only human living in the eerie ghost settlement." The cabin in the photo belonged to Liege Hensley and was the last cabin that Sherman Hensley lived in. Source: Photo by Thomas V. Miller Jr., The Courier-Journal (Louisville, KY), September 17, 1950, CUGA Accession 309, Catalog 5586



FIGURE 2–8. View of the condition of the Settlement in 1950, just before Sherman Hensley left. Structures, fences, and trees are visible scattered throughout the landscape. No gardens or fields are present. Source: Photo by Thomas V. Miller Jr., The Courier-Journal (Louisville, KY), September 17, 1950, CUGA Accession 309, Catalog 5586

near Middlesboro, Kentucky, you can see farm land in Virginia 3,000 feet below" (**Figure 2-9**). Many of the oral histories state that the families enjoyed views from the plateau, but it is difficult to imagine that this photograph was taken from the Settlement. It is more probable that the image was taken at the Kentucky-Virginia border, looking out over Virginia.

In 1968, the NPS commissioned John W. Eilert to complete the study *A Profile and Economic Impact Analysis of Four Cumberland Gap Counties*, which looked at economic conditions in Bell County, Kentucky; Harlan County, Kentucky; Claiborne County, Tennessee; and Lee County, Virginia. Eilert showed that out-migration from Kentucky in the 1950s was 33 percent. According to scholar Angela Sirna's 2015 dissertation on CUGA, in the four-county Cumberland Gap area it exceeded 43 percent, indicating that an even more astonishing percentage of this specific area's population left to pursue employment and lives in other locales in the United States.[115]

Landscape Summary

This period of settlement on Hensley Flats was the most important in relation to the significance of the cultural landscape. Adding to the clearings begun by the Nichols family, the Hensleys, Gibbonses, and allied family members further cleared land, built cabins and other structures, planted orchards, created vegetable gardens and pastures, and erected an extensive network of fencing. When they left, the existing agricultural landscape was in decline along with many of the associated buildings and structures.

Although the oral histories state that the families had cleared approximately 500 acres by the time they left, aerial documentation does not support this claim. By examining the earliest aerial, assuming a level of ground cover that had evolved over the years, and excluding the forested perimeter of the property, it appears that there had never been more than a total of 150 acres in homesteads, gardens, and pastureland, with the rest being surrounding woods. This seems like a more reasonable estimation of their actual use of the land and surrounding woodlands, which were a source of raw materials for building and of sustenance for themselves and their livestock.

The 1939 USGS aerial (**Figure 2-10**) imagery was used to create the Hensley Settlement period plan (**Figure 2-11**) for the period 1903–1951. All vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, and small-scale features are noted as they would have been in 1939, at the height of the Settlement. There are thirteen sites visible, including the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, Grant Hensley Farmstead, and Lige Gibbons Farmstead on the western portion of the site; Hensley Cemetery, the Brush Mountain School House, the Finley Hensley Farmstead, the Park Hensley Farmstead, and the Herbert [Bert] Hensley Farmstead at the center; the Liege Hensley House, Wallace Hensley Farmstead, Sherman Hensley Farmstead, and Gillis Lee Farmstead on the eastern portion of the site; and the Oscar Hensley Farmstead in the south.

The farmsteads were usually located near springs or creeks for water access, as there was no running water or electricity on site during this period. The land south of the Park Hensley Farmstead was cleared nearly to the creek, and there were many acres of cleared land around the Sherman Hensley and Oscar Hensley Farmsteads. Fencing enclosed the fields where they would have grazed cattle and raised crops.

The landscape appearance changed drastically after 1903. During the Nichols period, there was some land cleared, and there were a handful of buildings and structures on the eastern side of the property. During the period from 1903 to 1951, further clearing resulted in a more open landscape through the 1920s. In the 1930s, the chestnut blight occurred, which created openings in the forest canopy and enabled new growth of brush and ground cover in the forest. This increase in biomass likely brought about some of the wildfires mentioned in the oral histories,[116] although researchers have found no direct connection between the chestnut blight and the wildfires. As people moved away from the Settlement in the 1940s, the brush would have grown up, and first successional forests would have come in to cover many portions of the property.

115 Angela R. Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, 1922–1972" (PhD diss., Middle Tennessee State University, 2015), 210.

116 Jacob Margolis, "The Invasive, Flammable Plants Making California's Fires Worse," Southern California Public Radio, National Public Radio, December 22, 2017, www.scpr.org/news/2017/12/12/78789/the-invasive-flammable-plants-making-california-s/.

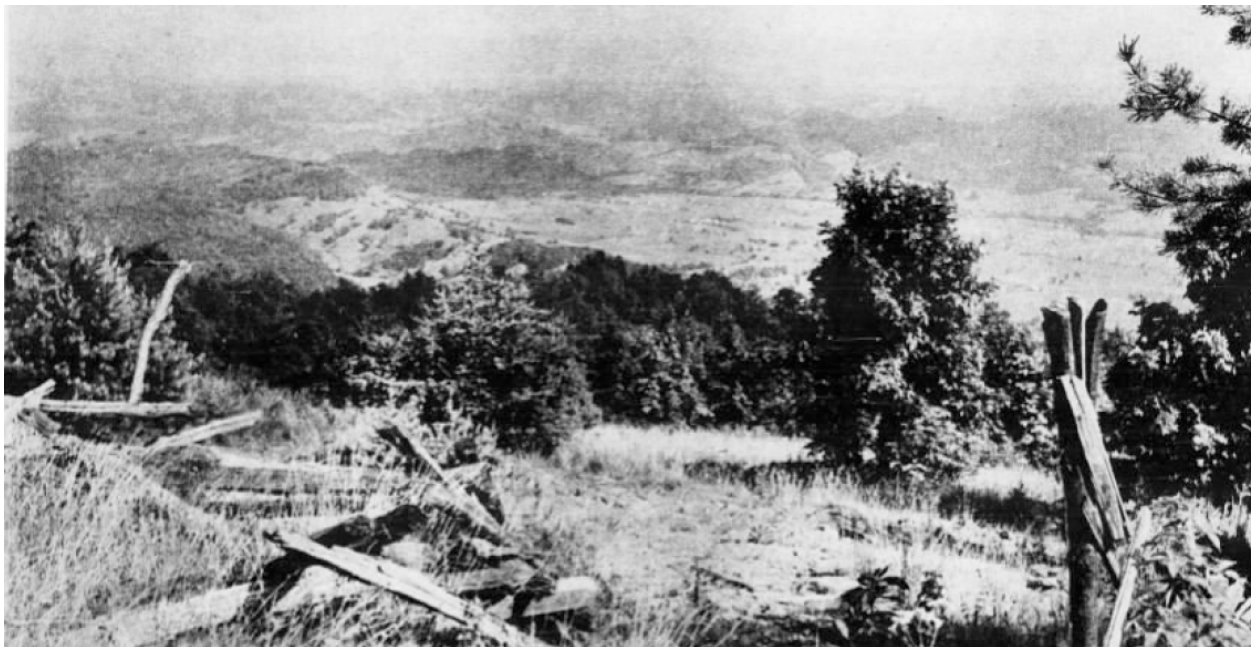


FIGURE 2–9. "From the almost flat land of Hensley Settlement atop the steep mountain near Middlesboro, Ky., you can see farm land in Virginia 3,000 feet below." Source: Photo by Thomas V. Miller Jr., The Courier-Journal (Louisville, KY), September 17, 1950, CUGA Accession 309, Catalog 5586

Jess Gibbons states that when people left the farms, pines began to grow on the mountain for the first time. The succession of the pine trees may have also been spurred by the chestnut blight.

Vegetation

Although it was not pristine wilderness, much of the site would have been forested with old-growth timber at the earliest arrival of the Hensley and Gibbons families. According to Sherman Hensley, at the time of the family's arrival, areas of land had been "deadened off."[117] Whether Sherman Hensley was speaking about the Bales tract or making a general statement about land-clearing in the region is not clear. The interviewer Hobart G. Cawood was specifically asking about the condition of the Hensley Settlement landholding when the Hensley and Gibbons families arrived, so it is possible that Hensley's comment relates directly to the flats atop Brush Mountain.

At the start of settlement, clearing forest and vegetation to create farmland was a necessity, and in the case of Willie Gibbons, a few acres were cleared each year to create more arable land. It is likely that large trees that were being deadened off would have dotted the newly cleared fields early on until they were removed by the farmers. The process of deadening off an area of trees involves girdling the trunks close to the ground so that the trees will die. This was typically done during the earliest stages of settlement. As the trees died, crops were planted around the dead trees until the trees deteriorated enough to either be burned out or have their stumps removed. After the deadening-off process was complete, the land was used for pasture or was available for plowing and planting.[118] Trees girdled at the right time of year died immediately, and the timber would have supplied some of the logs for fireplaces in the winter and for stoves year-round.

The orchards at Hensley Settlement, which were spread throughout the Settlement, supplied fruit that lasted all year. The Willie Gibbons orchard is the most notable, as it seems to have been the most structured. Sherman Hensley and Lige Gibbons had orchards on the steep hillsides of their properties as well. The woods also contained a good supply of wild fruit, hickory nuts, and, through approximately 1930, chestnuts—the latter being a source of food for wild game and raising hogs.

By the time Sherman Hensley left Hensley Settlement, he had been the only remaining

117 Jacob Margolis, "The Invasive, Flammable Plants Making California's Fires Worse," Southern California Public Radio, National Public Radio, December 22, 2017, www.scpr.org/news/2017/12/12/78789/the-invasive-flammable-plants-making-california-s/.

118 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, and Lige Gibbons, March 25, 1960, Oral History Tape Number 1.

1939 Hensley Settlement Aerial



FIGURE 2–10. Hensley Settlement 1939 aerial map. Source: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5585

0 100' 300' 600'

Cultural Landscape Report
Hensley Settlement

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park
Bell County, KY

Hensley Settlement
1903 - 1951
Hensley Flats and Family Settlement

suzanne turner ASSOCIATES
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Sources

1. Aerial Photography, March 22,1939. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5585
2. Boundaries and GIS Data, National Park Service 2018.

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap and Illustrator, 2020.

Legend

1. Willie Gibbons Farmstead
2. Grant Hensley Farmstead
3. Lige Gibbons Farmstead
4. Hensley Cemetery
5. Brush Mountain School House
6. Finley Hensley Farmstead
7. Bert Hensley Farmstead
8. Park Hensley Farmstead
9. Liege Hensley House
10. Wallace Hensley Farmstead
11. Sherman Hensley Farmstead
12. Gillis Lee Farmstead
13. Oscar Hensley Farmstead

- CUGA Boundary
- State Line
- Hensley Settlement Historic District
- Stream/Creek
- Topography
- Building
- Dirt Road (Major Circulation)
- Path (Secondary Circulation)
- Trace (Trail Circulation)
- Orchard
- Tree Line
- Open Field
- Fence
- Probable Fence

FIGURE 2–11. 1903 – 1951 Hensley Flats and Family Settlement Period Plan.
Source: STA

0 100' 300' 600' N

occupant of the Settlement for two years, as Willie Gibbons left in 1948. Most of the farmed landscape had probably already begun to revert to tall grasses and brush, except for the plot of land that Sherman Hensley was still working for his own subsistence. The workforce of children and other residents had left years before. Even at this time, it is probable that the landscape would already have been in transition from a farmed and managed landscape to one on which volunteer plant materials were beginning to encroach.

Circulation

Although it is unclear exactly when Farm Road Trail, the major circulation through the site, was established, it served as the spine of the Settlement and was still in place in 1951. The earliest aerial photography from 1939 shows that this trail remained mostly unchanged throughout the Hensley Settlement period. Intersecting roads and paths radiated out to the homesteads and farms that remained. Internal roads for wagons, work sleds, pathways between buildings, and movement of livestock between fields and barns would have been worn through continuous use, and these were clearly delineated. There would have been little incentive to change these patterns, as the residents were no longer actively managing the homesteads, pastures, and agricultural fields.

When the Hensley and Gibbons families first journeyed to the top of Brush Mountain, passage up to the Settlement was on horseback or mule by way of a trail that is now Brownies Creek Road. During the residents' tenure, this trail was improved slightly for use as a sled road that allowed easier transport of goods to neighboring towns. These roads were not, however, made accessible to motorized vehicles during this period.

Buildings and Structures

When the settlers first arrived, there were only two cabins on the property and possibly a few outbuildings. As children came of age, they married and were then given a plot of land on which they lived and farmed. At the height of their tenure, there were several farmsteads, each having an associated barn, chicken coop, and pigpens. There were also two mills, spring houses, whiskey stills, a blacksmith shop, and the Brush Mountain School House.

At the end of this period, buildings and structures were in a state of decline. Sherman Hensley had abandoned his own home due to its deteriorating condition and had moved to Liege Hensley's cabin. In a community that had been maintained by many members over the decades, there was no longer the manpower or the incentive to maintain the remaining assemblage of homes and outbuildings.

Small-Scale Features

The small-scale features of the site associated with each homestead were in place at the point of exodus. The two small mills referenced in the oral histories were somewhere along Martins Fork and Shillalah Creek. These each had small mill ponds that were constructed across the creeks in order to retain enough water to operate the mills. Throughout the oral histories, the families state that they also took larger quantities of corn to local grist mills, so their on-site mills must have been used only for small quantities that were for cooking or were supplemental feed for livestock.

Initially, Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons did not fence their properties; rather, they let their hogs run wild to forage for nuts and fruits in the forest. As the properties became more developed, fencing was more useful. Different types of fencing were used throughout the site, including worm fencing, stacked rail, stone wall, paling fence, and barbed wire. At the end of this period, much of the fencing around the extant farmsteads remained; but because fencing needs constant maintenance, it is likely that much of it was in disrepair.

THE ADVENT OF MISSION 66, AND THE ARRIVAL OF THE JOB CORPS (1951–1965)

After Sherman Hensley's departure from Hensley Settlement in 1951, Kentucky was still in the process of aggregating the landholdings that would become CUGA. New Deal planning efforts that had culminated in the enabling legislation for the park in 1940 continued and expanded. Sirna states the following:

> The period between 1942 and 1963 was mostly a transitional period for Cumberland Gap NHP during which time state officials continued to acquire property and used funding from Mission 66, a national NPS campaign to upgrade facilities, to realize some of the New Deal plans for the park.[119]

The precursor to Mission 66 had been a shift in emphasis from the national parks of the west to parks in the eastern half of the country, closer to larger population centers in the Midwest and along the East Coast. This emphasis began during the 1920s and accelerated in the 1930s during the Great Depression and the programs of the New Deal and its associated funding. When the NPS shifted its focus eastward, it began to acquire and develop historical sites east of the Mississippi.

At the same time, increased visitorship overwhelmed park services. During World War II, budget cuts to fund the war effort effectively ended park improvements and negatively impacted maintenance. When large numbers of people started visiting the parks after the end of the war, there were inadequate parking areas, limited comfort stations, and few rangers to provide guidance. Overall maintenance had also been deferred, which resulted in visitor dissatisfaction.

In 1951, Conrad Wirth became NPS director, and he began to develop Mission 66 to deal with the issues he inherited. Mission 66 was a ten-year plan to repair and modernize park infrastructure, and it would culminate in the fiftieth anniversary of the park service in 1966. After the election of President Dwight Eisenhower in 1953, legislation was drafted to create the necessary funding for the Mission 66 program.[120] Ethan Carr's book on the Mission 66 program documents the genesis of the program, its development, and the history of its implementation. Mission 66 provided critical funding for the park service at a time when the desire for park services had increased and when the park had critical funding gaps. This plan ultimately led to the rehabilitation of many buildings and the construction of new roads, visitor centers, and facilities on park service properties.

According to Sirna, "The Department of the Interior officially established CUGA on September 14, 1955, shortly before the initiative began."[121] The timing of this designation, along with the funding mechanism approved by the government, could not have been better. Funds provided by Mission 66 allowed for implementation of many of the planning efforts that had been developed over the previous decades and thus kick-started park development.

The original ideas that were the basis of CUGA were a celebration of the frontier lifestyle and the man who most embodied it—Daniel Boone. In order to accomplish that interpretive goal, many areas previously occupied by small farms were cleared of buildings and allowed to revert to wilderness. Although the Settlement originated later than the period that park planners were attempting to emulate, its appearance and its isolation as an "island community" in a remote location on Brush Mountain dovetailed perfectly with the overall goals of park staff.

The overall development of CUGA fit within the new focus of the park service, as CUGA contained multiple historical sites within its boundaries. But it needed roads, comfort stations, and a new visitor center. As a contributing landscape within CUGA, Hensley Settlement also needed restoration and an access road. Notably, the existing Settlement and its buildings embodied one of the founding principles of the NPS regarding architecture.

In *Building the National Parks*, Linda Flint McClelland recounts the principles that very early in the history of the NPS began to evolve in relation to architectural design, construction, and treatment of the landscape.

119 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 3.

120 Ethan Carr, *Mission 66: Modernism and the National Park Dilemma (*Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 2007), 52, 53.

121 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 192.

> Principles of landscape preservation and harmonization, rather than prototypes, were followed in the external design of these structures. Structures took on unique character as construction followed and blended with the natural landform and character of each site and as native materials and pioneering techniques of a region were employed.[122]

In 1928, the principles of construction and landscape naturalization were formalized, and they began to appear in specifications. In 1930, the NPS prohibited the introduction of exotic plants in national parks. Only materials—both architectural and horticultural—from the surrounding region were used in construction and landscape treatment. Ethan Carr discusses this hallmark of early NPS design theory in *Wilderness by Design*.[123] Hensley Settlement embodied many of the properties that had driven these park service design principles.

The NPS did not initially have the funds to repair the buildings and structures at the Settlement. That effort had to wait until another avenue of funding could be found. The fabric of the community had begun to deteriorate in the 1940s, and, precipitated by the out-migration of family members, continued to decline. The overall sense among the interested public and the park service staff was that a more intensive intervention was needed to save the buildings and prepare the Settlement for visitation by the general public. The land purchases and planning efforts for CUGA changed course in 1955. That year, the states of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia formally transferred the existing parklands to the United States.[124] The formal dedication of CUGA occurred on July 4, 1959, with Vice President Richard M. Nixon in attendance at selected prededication events.[125]

Writers and researchers had long known that poverty in the Appalachian region was severe and protracted. Even with the postwar boom in the national economy, Appalachia seemed to be falling further and further behind. The noted economist John Kenneth Galbraith authored *The Affluent Society* in 1958 and "found that public infrastructure, including schools, roads, public buildings, and parks, was poor despite this unprecedented affluence."[126] In 1962, Harry Caudill, a native of Kentucky, authored *Night Comes to the Cumberlands: A Biography of a Depressed Area*. An attorney by training and trade, Caudill's study used neither economic theory nor anthropological data but instead used the case made by Galbraith and others for direct government intervention in the areas of education and employment that would ultimately result in lifting the region out of the abject poverty experienced by so many.[127]

At the same time that scholars and writers were beginning to study Appalachia from an economic perspective, out-migration from the region was occurring at an astonishing pace. One study claimed that "in the 1950s, one-third of Kentucky's population left to search for better opportunities, leaving behind a community suffering from unemployment, low income, and poor education."[128] With the arrival of mechanization in the coal industry and the advent of strip mining, employment numbers collapsed. "Appalachian unemployment rates were about twice the national average in the 1950s," Sirna tells us.[129] As people were displaced from their land, the situation grew dire.

At one time, Appalachia was a frontier between foreign powers and the colonies, but after the removal of the imperial authorities, the duty of drawing of new state-boundary lines fell to the states. Because the mountainous region was surrounded by land that was more accessible and more desirable than the uplands, the boundary drawing consisted of extending the geometric lines "that had divided colonial beachheads … slicing across the mountains and valleys as an invisible grid." The region encompassed portions of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia as well as the

122 Linda Flint McClelland, *Building the National Parks: Historic Landscape Design and Construction* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998), 5.

123 Ethan Carr, *Wilderness by Design: Landscape Architecture and the National Park Service* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1998), 286.

124 Ahlman, Guymon, and Herrmann, *Archaeological Overview and Assessment*, 19.

125 Des Jean 2003, quoted in Ahlman, Guymon, and Herrmann, *Archaeological Overview and Assessment*, 19.

126 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 207.

127 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 208.

128 McCoy and Brown 35, quoted in Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 209.

129 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 209.

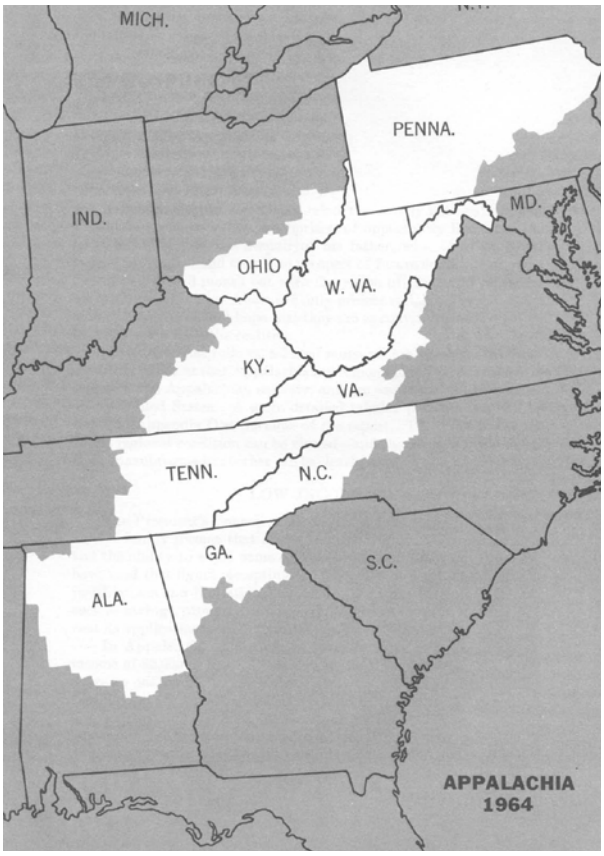


FIGURE 2–12. Map of the Appalachian region. Source: Appalachian Regional Commission

entirety of West Virginia (**Figure 2-12**). Thus, each of these states held a portion of Appalachia without any clear identifiable geographical boundaries. In John Alexander Williams's *Appalachia: A History*, he states that

> the sectional alignments built into each state by the inclusion of a part of Appalachia were a source of tension in politics and offer a basic reason why Appalachian people were unable to address or even formulate region-wide problems before the federal government intervened.[130]

Appalachia rose in the national consciousness with the 1960 election of John F. Kennedy, who believed strongly that it was the responsibility of the government and people in positions of power to help raise their fellow Americans out of poverty. During his campaign for the presidency, Kennedy was struck by the levels of poverty he observed in West Virginia. As he prepared for his 1961 inauguration, Kennedy created the President's Appalachian Regional Committee (PARC). The original goal of this economic development agency was to "address the persistent poverty and growing economic despair of the Appalachian Region."[131] PARC was to make recommendations for federal action in a section of the country that many felt had been left behind by the economic growth of the postwar boom.[132]

There was a desire to end poverty nationally, not just in Appalachia. Shortly after taking office, Kennedy formed the Area Redevelopment Administration (ARA). Congress created the new agency by law with instructions to adopt a three-point approach to end poverty: (1) issue low-interest loans to businesses, (2) make grants to local communities to build public facilities that would attract industry, and (3) create work-training programs. The focus was on economic development to create employment, as unemployment had been rising at an alarming rate in the region.[133]

The success of PARC was limited, but a devastating flood on March 5 and 6, 1963, brought the plight of the region back to the forefront. A few days later, on March 10 and 11, a more serious flood occurred. The floods caused extensive damage throughout the region, namely in eastern Kentucky, in the southeastern portion of West Virginia, and in the western portion of Virginia. The Associated Press (AP) noted that in Harlan County alone, in excess of "100 bridges were reported out." The AP also stated that twenty-five thousand people were displaced by the extensive flooding.[134] Both of the events were caused by cold fronts from the northwest colliding with warm fronts from the south and southeast. The synoptic effect was exaggerated by orographic lifting, as moisture was forced up the sides of mountains and rainfall accelerated under these conditions. This flooding provided the political cover Kennedy needed to move Appalachia to the top of the ARA agenda. In 1963, Kennedy expanded PARC and by executive order recategorized it as a presidential commission under the auspices of Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr., although Congress did

130 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 69–70.

131 "ARC History," Appalachian Regional Commission, USA.gov, accessed February 20, 2020, arc.gov/about/ARCHistory.asp.

132 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 340.

133 Eilert 59, quoted in Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 211.

134 Tennessee Valley Authority, "Floods of March 1963 in Tennessee River Basin," vol. 1 (Knoxville: TVA Division of Water Control Planning, 1964), 99–100.

not act until after Kennedy's assassination late that year.[135] President Lyndon B. Johnson advanced his predecessor's policies and legacy by continuing to favor economic development and renewal in the region. Johnson and his wife, Claudia Alta "Lady Bird" Johnson, kicked off the campaign for aid on the front porch of a former miner's house, and in 1965, they established the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC).[136]

In 1964, the ARA hired William P. Rock and Associates to conduct an analysis of opportunities in Bell County, Kentucky. Their report concluded that the region's dependence on coal could no longer sustain economic health and that the future of the region depended on light industry and heritage tourism. In particular, the consultants encouraged the NPS to restore Hensley Settlement and build a road "that would extend to Sand Cave at the east end of the park."[137]

The ARA and CUGA worked together on a two-pronged approach to combat poverty: (1) to increase public spending, which was mostly associated with road building, and (2) to create new job training through the Job Corps program. Their aim was to provide employment and increase job skills to promote future employment in the region. The plan included two major projects that the ARA and CUGA thought would increase tourism—one was the proposed 632-mile Allegheny Parkway through the Appalachian Mountains, and the other was a 13.1-mile highway corridor that ran from Pineville to Middlesboro. Ultimately, public opposition to the parkway stalled the project and it was never built, and the Cumberland Gap region retained its "sense of wildness and remoteness."[138] The highway between Pineville and Middlesboro was completed and is called 25E.

With so much of the federal government's focus on Appalachia, and with the Johnson administration's War On Poverty in full force, Johnson appointed Sargent Shriver, the brother-in-law of former president Kennedy, to found the Job Corps, modeling it on the successful Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) of the Great Depression era.[139]

135 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 341.

136 Williams, *Appalachia: A History*, 10, 342.

137 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 212.

138 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 220, 288.

139 Ronald D. Eller, *Miners, Millhands, and Mountaineers: Industrialization of the Appalachian South, 1880–1930* (Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 1982), 94.

Landscape Summary

The lands that comprised the Settlement during this era of history were aggregated by the state of Kentucky and transferred to the federal government by gift. The formal recognition of CUGA was celebrated in 1959.

The 1952 USGS aerial **(Figure 2-13)** imagery was used to create the Mission 66/Arrival of Job Corps period plan **(Figure 2-14)** for the period 1951–1965. All vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, and small-scale features are noted as they would have been in 1952, after everyone left Hensley Settlement. There are thirteen sites visible on this period plan: the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, Grant Hensley Farmstead, and Lige Gibbons Farmstead on the western portion of the site; Hensley Cemetery, the Brush Mountain School House, the Finley Hensley Farmstead, Herbert [Bert] Hensley Farmstead, and the Park Hensley Farmstead at the center; the Liege Hensley House, Wallace Hensley Farmstead, Sherman Hensley Farmstead, an unidentified structure, and Gillis Lee Farmstead on the eastern portion of the site; and the Oscar Hensley Farmstead in the south.

The landscape appearance changed only slightly from the 1939 aerial to the 1952 aerial. The 1952 aerial shows less land cleared in the southern and eastern portions of the property, as the brush and forest had been allowed to grow up in areas no longer cultivated for planting or grazing. At the Grant Hensley Farmstead, there are fewer buildings and most of the fencing seems to have been removed. The Willie and Lige Gibbons Farmsteads both have the same number of buildings that they had in 1939, and they both still have orchards. The Grant Hensley Farmstead has fewer structures, and fencing is removed. In both the 1939 and 1952 aerials, the cemetery fencing extends to a vertical fence line and is about double the size that it is now. The Brush Mountain School House was rebuilt and moved just south of the cemetery during the Hensley-Gibbons occupation, and notably, the school house can be seen in a different location on each of the 1939, 1952, and current aerials (the most current one was taken in 2018). The Finley Hensley Farmstead has fewer outbuildings than in 1939 but seems to have an orchard in the 1952 aerial. The Herbert [Bert] Hensley Farmstead had fewer outbuildings in the 1952 aerial, but the orchard is of similar size. In that same aerial, the Park Hensley

Farmstead is completely devoid of structures and trees, which may have been the result of a fire, and the Liege Hensley House is surrounded by forest outside of the small perimeter of cleared land. The Wallace Hensley Farmstead appears much the same in both of the first two aerials. In the 1952 aerial, the Sherman Hensley Farmstead has less cleared land, and the orchard is visible. An unidentified structure is visible near Shillalah Creek between the Sherman Hensley and Gillis Lee sites. The Gillis Lee site has one building visible in the 1952 aerial, as opposed to two buildings in the previous aerial. The Oscar Hensley Farmstead is more forested in the 1952 aerial, although several buildings are visible. Major circulation through the site is very similar to that seen in the 1939 aerial, with Farm Road Trail as the major route that runs through the spine of the site.

During the initial stages of the Mission 66 program, Hensley Settlement continued to decline. Brush and forest continued to grow through the former pastures, fields, gardens, and homesteads. By the end of this period, however, improvements were underway. A CUGA Job Corps memorandum states,

> A year ago restoration of the 3,200-foot high pioneer Hensley Settlement—called America's Last Pioneer Settlement—in the Cumberland Mountains seemed only a beautiful dream. Now restoration of a 100-acre area including 16 buildings is expected to be completed within five years.[140]

And with that, the work to make Hensley Settlement a visitor destination had begun.

140 W. G. Holman, Memorandum: Cumberland Gap, Kentucky Conservation Center Readiness Inspection, June 16, 1965, CUGA Job Corps Archives, p. 33, CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586 (Middlesboro, KY).

1952 Hensley Settlement Aerial



FIGURE 2–13. Hensley Settlement 1952 aerial map. Source: USGS

0 100' 300' 600'

Cultural Landscape Report
Hensley Settlement

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park
Bell County, KY

Hensley Settlement
1951 - 1965
Mission 66 and the Arrival of the Job Corps

suzanne turner ASSOCIATES
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Sources

1. Aerial Photography, USGS, March 7, 1952.
2. Boundaries and GIS Data, National Park Service 2018.

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap and Illustrator, 2020.

Legend

1. Willie Gibbons Farmstead
2. Grant Hensley Farmstead
3. Lige Gibbons Farmstead
4. Hensley Cemetery
5. Brush Mountain School House
6. Finley Hensley Farmstead
7. Bert Hensley Farmstead
8. Liege Hensley House
9. Wallace Hensley Farmstead
10. Sherman Hensley Farmstead
11. Unidentified Structure
12. Gillis Lee Farmstead
13. Oscar Hensley Farmstead

- CUGA Boundary
- State Line
- Hensley Settlement Historic District
- Stream/Creek
- Topography
- Building
- Dirt Road (Major Circulation)
- Path (Secondary Circulation)
- Trace (Trail Circulation)
- Orchard
- Tree Line
- Open Field
- Fence
- Probable Fence

FIGURE 2–14. 1951 – 1965 Mission 66 and the Arrival of the Job Corps Period Plan. Source: STA

0 100' 300' 600' N

JOB CORPS RESTORATION AND THE HEIGHT OF INTERPRETIVE EFFORTS (1965 – 1979)

After the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in November 1963, Lyndon B. Johnson became president and began campaigning for reelection. Civil rights and the War on Poverty were the two pillars of his reelection campaign. Passed in 1964, the Economic Opportunity Act was created to fight the War on Poverty. This act created the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), which was responsible for organizing the efforts of the War on Poverty. The OEO in turn, partnered with the NPS Job Corps program to create nine Job Corps Conservation Centers (JCCC) around the country. One JCCC (the Cumberland Gap Job Corps) was established at CUGA. This reinforced Johnson's focus on Appalachia as "one of the most economically depressed areas of the country and a key front in the War on Poverty."[141]

The nine JCCCs operated between 1965 and 1969, and six of them were in the Appalachian region, including the aforementioned Cumberland Gap Job Corps. Administrators looked at the mission of the NPS/ Job Corps holistically, and they envisioned the use of parks "as outdoor laboratories for building job and life skills."[142]

In conjunction with the Cumberland Gap Job Corps, CUGA park administrators actively collaborated on "using the park as a catalyst for tourism in the Tri-State area."[143] Spurred by the works of Galbraith and Caudill as well as the William P. Rock and Associates report, which documented the dire economic situation in the region, the park service sought to directly address unemployment, job training, and education.

CUGA's original enabling legislation was signed in 1940, but the inclusion of the Hensley Settlement had not been a part of the NPS agenda at that time. Family members still lived on the land in 1940, and there is no evidence that there was discussion of the possibility of obtaining the land for preservation as a visitor destination. During the 1940s and 1950s, the Kentucky National Parks Commission acquired land within the current boundaries of CUGA and, eventually, the properties owned by Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons after the families left the Settlement. Sirna states that "by the 1960s [the Settlement] had become a symbol of pioneer life in Appalachia, even though it was a twentieth-century construction." With the assemblage of buildings, property, and land, the Settlement "fit the bill of a 'frontier village,' a preservation concept favored by New Deal landscape architects."[144]

CUGA Administration of the Job Corps Center at Hensley Settlement

With economic incentives in place and funding mechanisms available, planning efforts moved forward at CUGA. The OEO that administered the Job Corps program hired James F. Batman, a former chief ranger at Badlands National Monument, for the position of director at the CUGA Job Corps Center; this position was "nearly equivalent to the park superintendent."[145] The move strengthened the ties between the OEO management and NPS management. It was an obvious next step to look at possibilities within the NPS to create work and training opportunities for the young men who would be stationed at the Job Corps headquarters. Job Corps staff, in conjunction with CUGA staff, outlined the new arrivals' purpose:

> Their purpose at Cumberland Gap NHP was to "maintain and revamp the scenic and historical setting" of the park. In the first six months, Job Corps work projects focused on building and maintaining foot trails and truck roads, firefighting, brush clearing, establishing the Wilderness Road Campground, and restoring Hensley Settlement.
>
> The NPS and Job Corps intended Hensley Settlement to occupy center enrollees for as long as five years and to serve as a learning laboratory while helping the park save an important chapter of Appalachian history.[146]

During this period, the CUGA Job Corps took on the task of restoring and, in some cases, completely rebuilding certain structures within the Hensley Settlement cultural landscape. Three key individuals

141 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 203.

142 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 220–21.

143 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 204.

144 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 305–6.

145 Cook, quoted in Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 233.

146 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 246–47.

supervised the CUGA Job Corps efforts—Lloyd Abelson, Hubert Thomas, and Jess Gibbons.

> During the early days of restoration, the work was supervised by Lloyd Abelson, the Chief Historian. Hubert Thomas was a CUGA Job Corps work leader whose relatives had lived at the Settlement. Jess Gibbons, the son of Willie Gibbons, had also grown up there, and he provided much guidance in the project.[147]

Hubert Thomas's sister, Pearlie, married Herbert [Bert] Hensley, and there is some indication that Pearlie was one of the teachers at the Hensley Settlement school house, but this is not clear in the oral histories. Nevertheless, Hubert Thomas was close to the family, and there are several mentions of connections between the Thomases and the Hensleys.[148]

Jess Gibbons had firsthand experience with and knowledge about how all parts of the Settlement worked, and he was able to recall the appearance of the community during his childhood and his adulthood. He served as consultant and advisor, ensuring that repairs and replacements were completed in the most authentic way possible, using methods that would replicate the look and feel of the place that he had once called home.

In 1965, work began at Hensley Settlement with the cutting of a 2.5-mile firebreak around the Settlement. Shortly after, the men began to create vehicular-accessible roads leading to the Settlement. A workable road was created from Cubage on the Kentucky side of the mountain to the Settlement, but it still took the men an hour and a half to reach the site from the CUGA Job Corps Center.[149] In order to reduce the time they spent traveling back and forth, they established a "spike camp," or interim camp, where they could overnight or spend multiple days.[150] This meant that the men had to level a site to create the work camp before moving trailers up the steep slope of Brush Mountain.

The first homestead that was stabilized and reconstructed was the Willie Gibbons Homestead, including the associated granary, outhouse, and spring house. There is a small land bridge, located on Farm Road Trail, near the Willie Gibbons Blacksmith Shop that may have been either installed or restored during this period, although specific details are unknown. While the stabilization and reconstruction were occurring, the young workers cleared the fields of brush that had grown up over the fifteen-year period between the Hensley-Gibbons habitation and the Job Corps arrival. Sirna notes,

> They planted apple trees at the Willie Gibbons and Lige Gibbons farms. They managed to stabilize all the structures by December 1967 and then completed restoration work on the Cupp Cabin at Martins Fork, another homestead separate from but near to Hensley. Up to twenty men worked at Hensley at a time, developing carpentry, concrete, plastering, landscape, equipment operation, and survey skills.[151]

The work completed at the Settlement was focused on the Willie Gibbons and Lige Gibbons Farmsteads. CUGA directed the CUGA Job Corps to restore the cabins and outbuildings at those two representative family farms within the larger Settlement. The physical restoration work that occurred at Hensley Settlement was not the only goal of the CUGA Job Corps, as they spent a significant amount of time training employees—teaching basic skills such as reading as well as vocational skills such as welding and operation of heavy machinery. The CUGA Job Corps hired Sherman Hensley as a consultant "to work with corpsmen both in training and in educating the corpsmen on the history of Hensley Settlement."[152]

The five-year plan that was developed to continue work at Hensley Settlement did not materialize. With the escalation of the Vietnam War and economic hardship brought on by inflation in the United States, President Johnson's political capital declined, and he was forced to scale back his War on Poverty. By 1968, Johnson had decided not to run for reelection, making him a lame-duck president. Richard Nixon won the 1968 election

147 Fred Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," National Park Service Technical Information Collection (Cumberland Gap, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, n.d.), 1.

148 Hensley, July 9, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 22.

149 Holman, Memorandum, p. 32.

150 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 248.

151 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 248.

152 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 248–51.



FIGURE 2–15. "Mules at Lige Gibbons farm." Photo by Wm E. Cox, Chief of Interpretation, Summer 1975, Image 523-002, Classification No. 523/542, Negative 1,657. Source: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586

and immediately began to reform Kennedy's and Johnson's antipoverty programs. In May 1969, the administration announced that the majority of JCCCs around the country would be closing, including the one at CUGA. The closure happened swiftly, and in the following month, the center was closed.[153]

Living History and Oral History Initiatives

The advent of the Foxfire book series in the 1960s and 1970s reignited national interest in Appalachian folklife. The work of the CUGA Job Corps at Hensley Settlement and the subsequent interpretive programs developed by CUGA employees capitalized on the new interest in living history and demonstration projects. By the 1960s, because of increasing urbanization, the average person no longer necessarily possessed a clear connection to agricultural production or livestock domestication. For this reason, visitors were interested in living farm demonstrations, which portrayed ways of life that had disappeared or declined.

Before the end of the Job Corps program, and with restoration of the buildings and fields at Hensley Settlement partially complete, CUGA chose to take interpretation a step further by creating a farm demonstration program that was supported by NPS upper management. NPS hired a farmer, farmer demonstrator, and foreman in 1968 to begin in the spring of 1969. With select preserved farmsteads complete, the presentation of Hensley Settlement as "a romanticized notion of frontier life" was adopted as the preservation approach.[154]

According to Ethan Carr, historic sites are often "considered more difficult for the public to appreciate," and therefore "they [are] also often the subject of more elaborate interpretive plans." Under the Mission 66 program, "living history" reenactments and the reconstruction of buildings were frequently the methods of interpretation.[155] To aid in the interpretation at Hensley Settlement, domestic livestock was kept on the property. Although livestock would have required veterinarian visits, food, and other forms of maintenance, they

153 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 266.

154 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 309.

155 Carr, *Mission 66*, 194.



FIGURE 2–16. "Cow, and Hay-cutting machine." Source: No attribution, Summer 1975, Image 523-003, Classification No 523/543, Negative No 1,684, Location: Bert Hensley farm – Hensley Settlement,. Source: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586

also would have kept the landscape pastures shorn and clean. Photographs show mules and cows used in the farmer demonstrator program at CUGA (**Figures 2-15 and 2-16**).

To aid in the promotion of the living history concept, CUGA began the Hensley Settlement Oral History Project, conducting interviews in the late 1960s and early 1970s. This effort was concurrent with CUGA Job Corps rehabilitation and continued after the Job Corps program ended. CUGA staff served as the interviewers, and they focused on learning about medical care, foodways, farming, livestock, tools, construction methods of the farm buildings and fences, and the education of the children at the Brush Mountain School House atop Brush Mountain.[156] Numerous hours of interviews were conducted, taped, and transcribed. The oral histories provide first-person accounts that capture the voices, dialect, and recollections of the people who lived at Hensley Settlement, including some of the original inhabitants and the schoolteachers who taught at the various school houses over the years.

Bernard Goodman, chief interpreter for CUGA, authored the 1971 *Interpretive Prospectus for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park*. This document brought together the information from the extensive interviews, the physical fabric of restored farmsteads, and the activities of the farmer demonstrators at Hensley Settlement. In keeping with the emphasis on pioneer living, Goodman encouraged the interpretation of the Settlement to represent "a life style similar to the early pioneers."[157] He also stated that the Settlement "should be interpreted as a Living Historical Farm" with tangible elements that help the visitor understand how life was made possible in such a remote place.

> There are six major tangible elements of interpretation at the Settlement. These are the Willie Gibbons Farm with its 11 structures; the Lige Gibbons Farm with its 6 structures; the Brush Mountain School House; the Hensley Graveyard; the land use as represented by the farm fields, crops, fences, livestock, etc.; and farm activities as represented by sorghum

156 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 310.

157 Goodman, "Interpretive Prospectus for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park," B-1.

> making, milking, cultivation of crops and hay fields, work in the blacksmith shop, slopping the pigs, stringing the beans, shearing the sheep, all of the things that are possibilities of living history demonstrations.[158]

He thought that interpretation should not be interrupted by signage, markers, or exhibits. He encouraged the use of interpreters, dressed in period clothing, to demonstrate the activities that had previously sustained the Settlement. Goodman also noted that the presentation of the physical attributes and activities of the landscape were important but that the "intangible" values were central to the public's understanding of the Hensley-Gibbons way of life. These intangibles included the need, for example, to develop a feeling of the Settlement's remoteness and isolation; to develop the idea of the self-sufficiency and self-reliance of the occupants of the Settlement; to show the character and nature of the mountain man who on the one hand was making moonshine and on the other hand was leading a devout religious life; and to characterize family life with its interrelationship of family size, work distribution, and recreation.[159]

Goodman describes the Willie Gibbons Farmstead in detail, as it was to be a focal point of the planned interpretation. He calls the house "an exhibit in place" and states that

> directly behind the kitchen the Gibbons maintained a grape arbor; between the house and previously mentioned vegetable garden, they had an extensive orchard with black and red Ben Davis apples, lock apples, Winesap and delicious apples as well as 200 peach trees, which should be restored and maintained. In front of the house, the family had an apple hole.

In 1972, the NPS approved the "Farm Management Plan," which included a map delineating the areas that would be represented as fields, as gardens, and as the farmsteads of the former residents (**Figure 2-17**). The "Farm Management Plan" included the reintroduction of farm animals, orchards, crops, and gardens to the site in order to create an authentic rural scene for the visitor.[160] Chester Thomas, son of Hubert Thomas, was hired to continue his father's work at Hensley Settlement as a farmer demonstrator. Unfortunately, Jess Gibbons suffered a heart attack, which then limited his involvement with the farmer demonstrator program.[161] In 2003, the 1972 "Farm Management Plan" was updated and simplified. It follows many of the precepts recommended in the 1972 plan, although it states that it was "not necessary to maintain all types of historic farming activities in order to illustrate the subsistence lifestyle of the Hensley inhabitants." The document further states that "it may be best to keep things simple and choose lower maintenance agricultural features such as corn, hay, apple orchards, and sheep."[162]

Michael Morse completed his thesis, "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture," in May 1975. Using primarily the oral history interviews, he synthesized the information into a summary of the folkways, events, and practices of the Settlement residents. Additionally, he interviewed former residents who were still alive, specifically Sherman Hensley, to verify information contained in the oral histories and expand on his findings in the thesis.[163] That same year, William Cox, chief of interpretation for CUGA, authored a report on the Settlement titled "Hensley Settlement: A Mountain Community." This added further interpretive material to the work that was being conducted; it was instrumental for interpreting Hensley Settlement and its former residents to visitors.

Authors of the 1977 "Historic Resource Management Plan: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park" sought to codify both the management of the landscape and the maintenance standards used to protect the building stock of the Settlement. This report details schedules of inspection and repair, chemicals to be used, and issues related to the livestock living on the site.[164]

158 Goodman, "Interpretive Prospectus for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park," B-3.

159 Goodman, "Interpretive Prospectus for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park," B-3–B-4.

160 Hill Studio, "Farm Management Plan Hensley Settlement" (Cumberland Gap, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2003).

161 Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," 1.

162 Hill Studio, "Farm Management Plan Hensley Settlement."

163 Morse, "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture," 78.

164 "Historic Resource Management Plan Cumberland Gap National Historical Park." Cumberland Gap, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park (Washington DC: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1977).

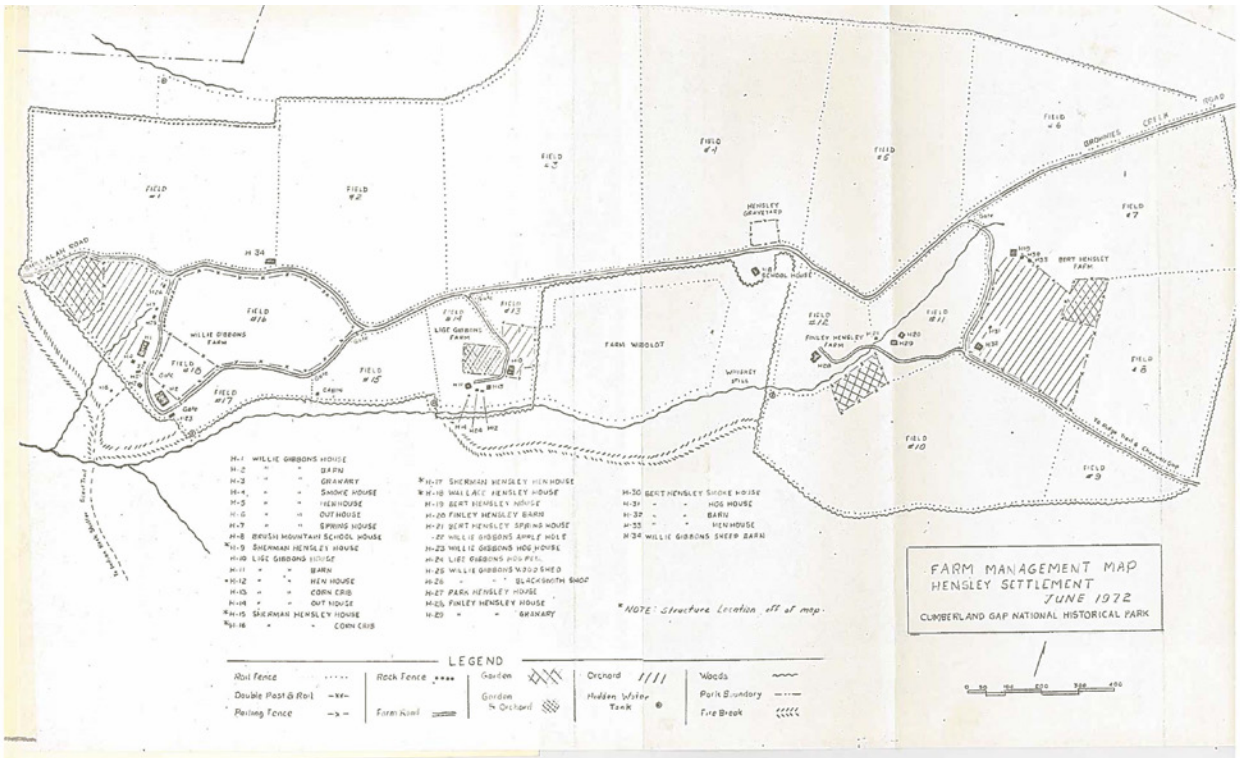


FIGURE 2–17. Plan of the 1972 living farm demonstrations at Hensley Settlement. Source: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586

Landscape Summary

The arrival of the Job Corps and related interpretive efforts saved the Hensley Settlement site. The involvement of family members who had formerly lived at the Settlement as well as of planners and other professionals guided the restoration of Hensley Settlement. Key to this was the study of the 1939 aerial, which detailed the locations of vegetation, fences, buildings and structures, and circulation. The changes at Hensley Settlement included the reconstruction of fence lines and buildings, installation of infrastructure, and establishment of a living farm demonstration program. With these changes completed, Hensley Settlement was integrated into the larger CUGA park.

The 1969 USGS aerial (**Figure 2-18**) imagery was used to create the CUGA Job Corps period plan (**Figure 2-19**) for the period 1965–1979. All vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, and small-scale features are noted as they would have been in 1969, during the early phases of the CUGA Job Corps period when the site was being prepared for farming demonstrations. There are twelve sites visible on this period plan, including the Willie Gibbons Farmstead and Lige Gibbons Farmstead on the western portion of the site; Hensley Cemetery, the Brush Mountain School House, Finley Hensley Farmstead, Herbert [Bert] Hensley Farmstead, Park Hensley Farmstead, and temporary CUGA Job Corps structures, which is the "spike camp" where the workers lodged, at the center; and the Liege Hensley House, the Sherman Hensley Farmstead, and the Wallace Hensley Barn on the eastern portion of the site. The Oscar Hensley House and two other unidentified structures are visible in the southern portion of the site.

Notably, the whole site is covered in second-growth forest in the 1969 aerial. Orchards were replanted by the CUGA Job Corps at the Willie Gibbons and Lige Gibbons Farmsteads, which would have made these farmsteads appear more like working farms. The firebreak, cleared by the CUGA Job Corps in 1965, is visible in this aerial. It rings the Gibbons Farmsteads, Hensley Cemetery, the Brush Mountain School House, the Herbert [Bert], Finley, and Park Hensley Farmsteads, and the spike camp. The spike camp was removed and the Park Hensley Cabin was rebuilt after this aerial photograph was taken, as can

1969 Hensley Settlement Aerial



FIGURE 2–18. Hensley Settlement 1969 aerial map. Source: USGS

0 100' 300' 600'

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Hensley Settlement

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park
Bell County, KY

Hensley Settlement
1965 -1979
Job Corps and Height of Interpretation

suzanne turner ASSOCIATES
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Sources

1. Aerial Photography, USGS, April 25, 1969.
2. Boundaries and GIS Data, National Park Service 2018.

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap and Illustrator, 2020.

Legend

1. Willie Gibbons Farmstead
2. Lige Gibbons Farmstead
3. Hensley Cemetery
4. Brush Mountain School House
5. Finley Hensley Farmstead
6. Bert Hensley Farmstead
7. Temporary JC Structures/Spike Camp
8. Liege Hensley House
9. Sherman Hensley Farmstead
10. Wallace Hensley Barn
11. Oscar Hensley House
12. Unidentified Structures

- CUGA Boundary
- State Line
- Hensley Settlement Historic District
- Stream/Creek
- Topography
- Building
- Temporary JC Structure
- Dirt Road (Major Circulation)
- Path (Secondary Circulation)
- Trace (Trail Circulation)
- Firebreak
- Orchard
- Tree Line
- Open Field
- Fence
- Probable Fence
- Power line

0 100' 300' 600' N

FIGURE 2–19. 1965 – 1979 Job Corps and Height of Interpretation Period Plan.
Source: STA

be seen on the present-day aerial. Also visible on the 1969 aerial is the electrical power line that enters the site near the northeast. According to Sirna, the CUGA Job Corps was responsible for outfitting the Herbert [Bert] Hensley Cabin with "modern conveniences," such as electricity and water, so that an interpreter could live there.[165] Most of the historic Farm Road Trail is visible in this aerial too, except the western portion near the Willie Gibbons Farmstead. To the east near the Herbert [Bert] Hensley Farmstead, the southward bend in Farm Road Trail is visible, whereas it was a trace path in the 1952 aerial. The 1969 aerial shows that the path leading to the Willie Gibbons Farmstead and back to Farm Road Trail was in heavy use during this period.

165 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia," 309.

1979 TO THE PRESENT

Many of the programs that had been developed during the preceding period of Job Corps work, including the use of farmer demonstrators on the site, ended during this time. The NPS simplified interpretation and adopted a program of keeping the site mown and routing visitors along pathways and roads that took more direct paths across the landscape. Many of these decisions were necessary as funding levels fluctuated and often decreased. Continued stabilization and preservation of buildings is an ongoing effort.

A gravel perimeter road was constructed at Hensley Settlement that diverted traffic outside the core of the Settlement.[166] This road is called Hensley Perimeter Road. It encircles the historic core of the Settlement to the north and leads to the maintenance complex on the eastern edge of the property.

In January 1980, the nomination to add Hensley Settlement to the National Register of Historic Places was accepted. This nomination included a brief history of the Settlement and a listing of the forty-three contributing and six noncontributing features. In 1997, the nomination was amended to change three structures—the Park Hensley and Sherman Hensley Houses, and the Finley Hensley Barn—from contributing to non-contributing, and to change the classification of the Finley Hensley Granary from a structure to a site because it had been razed. This update brought the total number of contributing features to forty.[167] The original nomination and the 1997 update do not refer to the orchards, with the exception of the Willie Gibbons Apple Hole.

A study was conducted in 1992 to develop a maintenance program for the historic apple trees. This study set up a rotating schedule on a three-year basis to prune, check the health of, and further assess all the apple trees at the Settlement using a series of maps. There were about one hundred historic apple trees at the time of the 1992 study, but the study did not name any varieties of apples.[168] The 2003 "Hensley Settlement Agriculture Assessment" states that the historic apple orchards included the Black Ben Davis, Red Ben Davis, Lock, and Paw Paw varieties.[169] In 2008, sixty-one apple trees were catalogued using GIS technology. Trees were categorized by homestead, and the overall health of each tree was estimated. If fruit was present, the team attempted to identify the variety. During this assessment, the team identified Winesap and McIntosh apples, but there were several guesses made about unknown varieties, including Rome, Grimes Golden, Black Ben Davis, and Yellow Delicious.[170] The Hensley Settlement Oral History Project provides further insight on the varieties of historic apples, including the Lock, Bantam, Delicious, Little Sweet, Big Sweet, Paw Paw, Limbertwig, Berry Reds, Rolling, and Rays of Green.

The apple trees at the Settlement have always been a source of pride and study. Apple tree management is an ongoing and constantly evolving effort. Today, some of the stock of historic apple trees remains, and efforts should be taken to preserve them. These trees were a vital part of the survival of Hensley Settlement families, and they survive today as evidence of how people managed to live here for nearly five decades. Because farming and livestock demonstrations are cost prohibitive and too environmentally damaging to enact, the cultural link to the families rests in maintaining the remaining buildings and structures and the apple trees. NPS orchard specialist Susan Dolan states that the apples "are contributing features that need to be identified in the existing conditions. Consider them on par with the cabins. They are worthy of preservation as they are a formula and a signature on the land."[171]

166 Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," 2.

167 Jennifer D. Brown, "Hensley Settlement," National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form (Middlesboro, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1980, revised 1997).

168 "Maintenance Program for Historic Apple Trees," July 13, 1992, completed for NPS, CUGA: Hensley Settlement, CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586, Middlesboro, KY.

169 Hill Studio, "Hensley Settlement Agriculture Assessment: General Recommendations for Agriculture," completed for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park (US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, July 24, 2003), 2.

170 Jennifer Beeler, Martha Wiley, Kevin Wright, and Harold Jerrell, "Hensley Settlement Apples," GIS Documentation of Historic Apple Trees, completed for National Park Service (Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Hensley Settlement, October 16, 2008).

171 Susan A. Dolan, "Historic Apple Orchards," phone interview with author, January 28, 2020.

In 1999 waterlines were updated at Hensley Settlement and at other sites in CUGA. Archeologist Tom Des Jean assessed the impacts of this installation on archeological resources. That same year, Des Jean examined the impact that the planting of chestnut trees would have on the resources at Hensley Settlement. In 2004 Des Jean examined the path of a utility-line trench at the Settlement for the park service.[172]

On November 18, 2000, a fire was accidentally set by a visitor at Hensley Settlement. A December 28, 2000, NPS briefing concerning the fire states that the "Willie Gibbons House and smokehouse had burned to the ground."[173] The briefing references an editorial that ran in *The Middlesboro Daily News* titled "Historic Structure Can Never Be Replaced." The author of the NPS briefing stated that the Willie Gibbons House and Smokehouse included two important elements that required consideration: their prominent location as the public tour entrance and the fact that the Willie Gibbons house was a focus of interpretation. The author concluded that it would be appropriate to reconstruct the house and smokehouse on their original sites. At the time, NPS policy allowed for review and replacement of structures under certain circumstances, but the site was never rebuilt. Today, it is an interpreted ruin. Current NPS policy does not recommend the reconstruction of missing buildings.

According to park employees, in the years since the CUGA Job Corps completed work at Hensley Settlement, NPS staff, family members, volunteers, and others have recorded countless hours of work to maintain and improve Hensley Settlement. Their efforts should be recognized as part of the cultural history of the Settlement.

Landscape Summary

The 2018 USGS aerial (**Figure 2-20**) imagery was used to create the 1979–Present period plan (**Figure 2-21**). All vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, and small-scale features are noted as they are at present. There are fourteen sites visible on this period plan, including the Willie Gibbons Farmstead and Lige Gibbons Farmstead on the western portion of the site; Hensley Cemetery, the Brush Mountain School House, the Finley Hensley Farmstead, the Herbert [Bert] Hensley Farmstead, and the Park Hensley House at the center; and the Liege Hensley House, Wallace Hensley Farmstead (ruins), Sherman Hensley Farmstead (ruins), and Gillis Lee Farmstead (ruins) on the eastern portion of the site. The Oscar Hensley Farmstead (ruins) can be found on the southern portion of the site. Finally, the park maintenance buildings and the radio repeater are visible on the northeastern portion of the site.

The historic circulation through the site, Farm Road Trail, is still the main route visitors take. Hensley Settlement as it exists today is mostly forested, with the exception of the cleared farmsteads of Willie Gibbons, Lige Gibbons, Herbert [Bert] Hensley, Park Hensley, and Finley Hensley. Maintained trails from the site include the Indian Rock Trail and the Ridge Trail. The apple trees are not as abundant or intact as they were during the height of Hensley Settlement, although they are present throughout the site. The apple orchards at the Settlement were not organized for the use of mechanical equipment but rather were planted in relation to farmsteads and steep topography that was not as suitable for food production. They were not planted in a grid pattern but rather randomly placed.

172 Ahlman, Guymon, and Herrmann, *Archaeological Overview and Assessment*, 57.

173 "Willie Gibbons House & Smokehouse Briefing on Reconstruction of Historic Structures," CUGA Archives Manuscript on file. Middlesboro, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, December 28, 2000.

2018 Hensley Settlement Aerial

FIGURE 2–20. Hensley Settlement 2017 aerial map. Source: Google Earth

0 100' 300' 600'

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Hensley Settlement
1979 - Present

suzanne turner ASSOCIATES
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Sources

1. Aerial Photography, Google Earth, 2018.
2. Boundaries and GIS Data, National Park Service 2018.

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap and Illustrator, 2020.

Legend

1. Willie Gibbons Farmstead
2. Lige Gibbons Farmstead
3. Hensley Cemetery
4. Brush Mountain School House
5. Finley Hensley Farmstead
6. Bert Hensley Farmstead
7. Park Hensley Farmstead
8. Liege Hensley House
9. Wallace Hensley Farmstead Ruins
10. Sherman Hensley Farmstead Ruins
11. Gillis Lee Farmstead Ruins
12. Oscar Hensley Farmstead Ruins
13. Park Maintenance Buildings
14. Radio Repeater

- CUGA Boundary
- State Line
- Hensley Settlement Historic District
- Stream/Creek
- Topography
- Building
- Gravel Road
- Grassed Road (Major Circulation)
- Grassed Path (Secondary Circ.)
- Trail Circulation
- Orchard (2010 GIS)
- Trees
- Tree Line
- Open Field
- Fence
- Power line

0 100' 300' 600' N

FIGURE 2–21. 1979 – Present Period Plan. Source: STA

Chapter 3

EXISTING CONDITIONS: THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE AND ARCHITECTURAL ASSEMBLAGE

This chapter describes the existing conditions of Hensley Settlement as observed during site visits by researchers in September 2017, July 2018, and October 2019. In addition to the site visits, researchers reviewed sources provided by the National Park Service (NPS), including an ArcGIS file, a photograph of the original Hensley Settlement plat, transcribed oral histories, and other documentation. Researchers also reviewed USGS and aerial maps for further analysis. Every built feature was documented, but only a select number of photographs appear in this chapter. Those included are intended to document the condition of main features and views and to illustrate the visitor experience.

This section begins with a broad view of the landscape context and then provides a detailed record of characteristics. Landscape characteristics documented include topography and natural systems, spatial organization, land use, cultural traditions, cluster arrangement, circulation, vegetation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, small-scale features, and archeological resources.

Although the original five hundred acres of Hensley Settlement is within the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park (CUGA), the current maintained acreage of the Settlement is much less than the original holding purchased by Burton Hensley Sr. in 1903. It consists of forty contributing resources, most of which are within approximately sixty acres of cleared land. Of the forty resources, twenty-seven are classified as buildings and structures, ten are ruins, and three are sites. There are ten noncontributing structures, including three that were changed from contributing to noncontributing in 1997. Some ruins are in wooded areas, accessed by Farm Road Trail and the Ridge Trail east of the clearing. Hensley Settlement Historic District comprises 156.3 acres and approximately 1.7 miles of trails.[1]

GEOLOGY AND LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

Hensley Settlement is located within CUGA in Bell County, Kentucky. CUGA, totaling 24,547 acres, spans the Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia state lines and runs generally southwest to northeast for 20 miles. The average width of the park is 1.6 miles. In addition to Hensley Settlement, some of the main attractions within the park are the Cumberland Gap, the Gap Cave, the Iron Furnace, the Pinnacle Overlook, and 85 miles of scenic hiking trails.

The rocks surrounding CUGA are sedimentary, ranging in age from Cambrian to Pennsylvanian (540 to 295 million years ago). During this period, a mixture of sand, mud, gravel, silt, carbonate minerals, and seashells were deposited, and while under extreme pressure, they formed sedimentary rocks. This resulted from the rising and falling of an ancient shallow sea over millions of years. The now underground ancient swampy areas are the source of the coal beds found today.[2]

The main structural geological feature in the region is the Pine Mountain Thrust Fault, which is a convergent fault. A basic fault is a fracture or crack in rock in the Earth's crust; a convergent fault is formed when two tectonic plates move toward each other, with one eventually sliding below the other.[3] The land southeast of the Cumberland Mountain range, primarily land in Virginia and portions of Tennessee, is converging and sinking below Cumberland Mountain itself. Cumberland Mountain is located south of the Settlement along the boundary of Kentucky and Virginia. This

1 Jessica McNeil (Cultural Resources Program Manager at Hensley Settlement, CUGA, NPS), "CUGA Responses," correspondence with author, August 15, 2019.

2 James C. Cobb, Matthew Crawford, and Hanna Hunsberger, *Geology of Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Map and Chart 199, Series XII* (Lexington: University of Kentucky, 2011), 199.

3 Cobb, Crawford, and Hunsberger, *Geology of Cumberland Gap National Historical Park*, 199.

geologic feature is the origin of the Appalachian Mountains.

The current historic district containing Hensley Settlement is located on the uplift side of the fault in an area comprised of mixed clastic and coal, with rocks consisting of sandstone and conglomerate nearby.[4] Geographically, it is only 1,500 feet north of the Virginia state line and 5 miles north of the Tennessee state line. The closest city is Middlesboro, Kentucky, with a population of 10,334 according to the 2010 census. It is the largest city in southern Kentucky, 1 mile west of Cumberland Gap, and is built entirely within a meteorite crater. Hensley Settlement is approximately 14.4 miles northeast of Middlesboro and 9 miles northeast of Cumberland Gap. Sparsely populated rural areas are immediately north and south of the Settlement. The closest major metropolitan area is Knoxville, Tennessee, which is 53 miles southwest of the Settlement.

PARK OPERATIONS AT HENSLEY SETTLEMENT

The purpose of Hensley Settlement is to preserve, interpret, and provide education about the farmsteads and material culture of the extended family that occupied the site between 1903 and 1951. This is accomplished by representing their lifeways, subsistence agrarian culture, educational focus, and religious practices and by interpreting the surrounding landscape that was part of their larger experience.

Visitors may experience the Settlement with or without the aid of a guided tour. Throughout the warmer months of the year, the CUGA Visitor Center offers guided tours of the Settlement. Participants are transported to the Settlement by an NPS vehicle. Each tour is led by a ranger who interprets the landscape, the structures, and the Hensley Settlement story and way of life. Tour sequences and destinations vary depending on the ranger who leads the group. Visitors who hike or ride horseback may explore at their own pace at any time of the year. Although hiking trails and equestrian trails are combined, horses are not allowed within the historic district.

Four trails pass through Hensley Settlement. Visitors may approach from the west on Shillalah Creek Road; from the southwest on Indian Rock Trail via Ridge Trail; and from the east on Brownies Creek Road and Ridge Trail.

Due to the elevation and remote location of Hensley Settlement, handheld radios are used by rangers and other employees when working on the mountain. Cell phones also provide coverage in certain locations.

Maintenance

A maintenance area is located on the eastern edge of the site, hidden by trees and brush. Maintenance tasks include mowing, bushhogging, weed eating, and attending to fence lines and structures. A schedule and map direct employees on which areas are to be bushhogged or mowed. Mown areas are near structures and between structures, and they make up paths between areas of interest, usually located on the guided tour. The maintenance area is not part of the Hensley Settlement Historic District.

The park staff has several constraints associated with maintaining the site. Access to the Settlement is limited in winter due to the high elevation of the site, which makes it more susceptible to freezing temperatures and snow. This results in a shortened season, and no work is done in the winter months. The short season, remoteness of the site, and minimal staff are limiting factors for Hensley Settlement. The overall condition of the managed landscape at Hensley Settlement is good and well maintained.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS AND FEATURES

Topography, Natural Systems and Features

The Settlement is located on the far eastern border of Kentucky near the Virginia state line, on a plateau called Hensley Flats. It is situated between elevation 3,260 to the northeast, 3,240 to the southwest, and a steep slope on the north edge that reaches elevation 3,180 (**Figure 1-1**). The land is characterized by rolling topography and generally slopes southwest. The flats are located on Brush Mountain, where Cumberland Mountain runs parallel only 750 feet to the south. Shillalah Creek separates Cumberland Mountain from the flats. It begins approximately 1,000 feet southwest of the Settlement, flows southwest, and then turns north down Brush Mountain before joining Clear Fork. Cubage

4 Cobb, Crawford, and Hunsberger, *Geology of Cumberland Gap National Historical Park*, 199.

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Hensley Settlement
Vegetation Overstory Map

suzanne turner ASSOCIATES
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Drawn By
Ashley Braquet, ArcMap and Illustrator, 2020.

Brownies Creek Road
Farm Road Trail
Farm Road Trail
Farm Road Trail
Ridge Trail
Ridge Trail
Shillalah Creek
Indian Rock Trail

Legend

UNIT_CODE
- CUGA
- Hensley Buildings
- Streams
- Trails

Vegetation Overstory

Vegetation Name
- Appalachian Montane Oak Hickory Forest (Chestnut Oak Type)
- Acer Rubrum
- Blue Ridge Table Mountain Pine-Pitch Pine Woodland (Typic Type)
- Chestnut Oak Forest (Mesic Slope Heath Type)
- Cultivated Meadow
- Human Influence
- Rock Outcrops
- Great Rhododendron
- Swamp Forest-Bog Complex (Typic Type)
- Virginia Pine Successional Forest

Sources

1. Jordan, Thomas R., Marguerite Madden. "Digital Vegetation Maps for the NPS Cumberland-Piedmont I&M Network." National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior. Center for Remote Sensing and Mapping Science, Department of Geography: University of Georgia, Athens. November, 1, 2010.
2. Boundaries and GIS Data, National Park Service 2018.

0 185 370 740 Feet

N

FIGURE 3–1. The overstory vegetation map shows the plant communities within Hensley Settlement. Source: STA



FIGURE 3–2. View of the Lige Gibbons Farmstead from a path adjacent to the Willie Gibbons Farmstead and the Grant Hensley House (ruin). The rolling topography of Hensley Flats is visible. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017

Creek begins on the north side of Brush Mountain, approximately 1,000 feet northwest of the clearing, near the 2,600 contour; then it flows north to meet Clear Fork. Martins Fork begins 2,225 feet east of the Settlement and flows east between Brush and Cumberland Mountains[5] (**Figures 1-1 and 3-113**).

Soil and Climate

Hensley Settlement is located on Crossville loam (CsD), 12 percent to 20 percent, and Crossville loam (CsC), 3 percent to 12 percent slopes. The Crossville Series consists of moderately deep, well-drained soils on mountain crests. Permeability is moderate.[6]

The mean annual air temperature is 54.8 degrees Fahrenheit, and the mean annual precipitation is 49.36 inches. Forested areas consist of oak, hickory, black gum, elm, and Virginia pine.[7]

Overstory Vegetation

The overstory vegetation classifications within the historic district, as shown in **Figure 3-1**, are dependent largely on elevation and whether lands were cleared or preserved as open meadow.

The land that contains the most park structures is characterized as "cultivated meadow," as shown in **Figure 3-2**. This area is bushhogged regularly and maintained as open land. The most dominant species in this area are European "tall or meadow fescues" and bluegrasses.[8]

South of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead is overstory listed as "Appalachian Montane Oak Hickory Forest (Chestnut Oak Type)." This overstory stretches from the Willie Gibbons Farmstead east to the rear of the Liege Hensley Farmstead. It is present south of the Brush Mountain School House and stretches from the south of the Finley Hensley Farmstead to the east perimeter of the Hensley Settlement Historic District. This community occurs mostly above 2,700 feet on acidic soils. Present species may include red oak, white oak, cucumber magnolia, tulip tree, and chestnut oak.[9]

5 "Varilla Quadrangle," United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey, 1974, https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/usgs-1-24000-scale-quadrangle-for-varilla-ky-1974da852.

6 Daniel Childress, *Soil Survey of Bell and Harlan Counties, Kentucky* (Washington, DC: Soil Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, 1992), 23–24.

7 National Cooperative Soil Survey, "Crossville Series" (KY/TN: USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 2008), https://soilseries.sc.egov.usda.gov/OSD_Docs/C/CROSSVILLE.html, 2.

8 Rickie D. White Jr., *Vascular Plant Inventory and Ecological Community Classification for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park* (Durham, NC: NatureServe, 2006).

9 White Jr., *Vascular Plant Inventory and Ecological Community Classification*.

The "Virginia Pine Successional Forest" is present southeast of the Liege Hensley Farmstead, and it stretches east to the historic district perimeter, south of the Appalachian Montane Oak Hickory Forest. This community occurs in areas where the original tree canopy has been removed and erosion has left little mineral soil. This community indicates severe human disturbance and is usually less than fifty years old. Species found within this community are Virginia pine, sweetgum, red maple, and tulip tree.[10]

Also, south of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, a "Chestnut Oak Forest (Mesic Slope Health Type)" overstory stretches west to east and follows the length of a swale that contains Shillalah Creek. This community occurs on north-facing slopes in sheltered locations. Species within this community include chestnut oak, red maple, and northern red oak. All examples have a moderate to high cover of great rhododendron.[11]

South of this forest is a "Swamp Forest–Bog Complex Typic Type" that contains Shillalah Creek and is in the southwest portion of the historic district. This community is usually found in boggy situations and contains an open and closed canopy of hemlock and a heavy shrub layer of great rhododendron.[12]

Northwest of this area is the "Blue Ridge Table Mountain Pine–Pitch Pine Woodland (Typic Type)." This community is found on exposed ridges in shallow rocky soils. Species found within this community are pitch pine, Virginia pine, chestnut oak, sourwood, and black gum.[13]

South of Shillalah Creek, smaller patches of Appalachian Montane Oak Hickory Forest (Chestnut Oak Type), Chestnut Oak Forest (Mesic Slope Health Type), and other designations (Red Maple and Great Rhododendron modifiers) are visible and correspond to changes in elevation. A rock outcrop is present in the southeast of the district.

Areas designated as "Human Influence" are near currently preserved farmsteads and near former farmsteads within the forest. Within these areas, there could be a presence of exotics and evidence of past or present human influence such as agriculture, grazing, logging, mowing, exotic vegetation removal, and old homesite construction. Damage by insects, wild hogs, blowdown, and fire have also been recorded within human influence zones.[14]

Wildlife

The Hensley Settlement Historic District provides varied open and forested habitats for wildlife. Within CUGA, the NPS has documented 371 species of amphibians, birds, mammals, reptiles, and insects. Common animals that the visitor may encounter include cottontail rabbits, gray squirrels, opossums, striped skunks, bobcats, white-tailed deer, raccoons, gray foxes, black bears, various bats, songbirds, wild turkeys, hawks and vultures, snakes, turtles, and elk.[15]

Elk were once native to the area, but habitat loss and unregulated hunting led to their demise around 1850. In 1997, Kentucky and Tennessee began to reintroduce elk into areas in which they were previously extinct. In 2001, Kentucky was considered the leader in elk reintroductions with a population estimated at 1,200, the largest in the eastern United States.[16] The purpose was to "restore a missing component of the ecosystem and offer more wildlife recreation in forms of elk viewing and hunting."[17]

Climate Change and Hensley Settlement

Interpretation of climate change in the Ohio Valley region is complicated because there appear to be very influential effects of (especially) air pollution and its interaction with anthropogenic climate change. During the 1950s and the 1960s, the southeast portion of the country experienced significant cooling, while the rest of the country warmed. Hensley Settlement is located within the area that cooled, which is commonly referred to

10 White Jr., *Vascular Plant Inventory and Ecological Community Classification*.

11 White Jr., *Vascular Plant Inventory and Ecological Community Classification*.

12 White Jr., *Vascular Plant Inventory and Ecological Community Classification*.

13 White Jr., *Vascular Plant Inventory and Ecological Community Classification*.

14 Thomas R. Jordan and Marguerite Madden, *Digital Vegetation Maps for the NPS Cumberland-Piedmont I&M Network*, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service (Athens, GA: Center for Remote Sensing and Mapping Science, Department of Geography, University of Georgia, 2010).

15 "Animals," Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, updated August 29, 2018, www.nps.gov/cuga/learn/nature/animals.htm.

16 Gary Garth, "Kentucky Elk Herd Gets Boost from Tag Fees," *Courier-Journal* (Louisville, KY), May 20, 2001, Newspapers.com.

17 Steve Vantreese, "Bringing Back Buglers," *Paducah Sun* (McCracken, KY), March 19, 1997.

as the "southeast warming hole." The cause of this cooling has been debated and is thought to be a result of the combination of pollution from industry and from energy production as well as the result of natural, broad-scale climate drivers associated with sea surface temperatures.[18] With the implementation and enforcement of air pollution regulations, temperatures have increased at a similar rate to the rest of the country since the 1960s and have surpassed the warmest temperatures recorded since 1900.[19] The past decade is the warmest on record, and all climate projections are for much warmer temperatures in the future (that is, the very rapid warming trend will continue).

According to the Environmental Protection Agency article "What Climate Change Means for Kentucky," in the first half of the twentieth century, the annual precipitation in the state increased by about 5 percent. The frequency and intensity of extreme rainfall is projected to increase even further, which will pose additional hazards, including erosion, flooding, and damage to structures.[20] Although there will be more rainfall, warmer temperatures will increase evaporation, which dries out soils and reduces the amount of water available for recharging groundwater; decreased groundwater levels can have a negative effect on vegetation. This cycle of unpredictable weather can lead to more severe droughts and hotter weather.[21] This new climate may cause certain species of trees to die off, which creates openings in the forest canopy, making room for opportunistic invasive species of grasses and brush to grow. Excess levels of grass and brush can build up high levels of biomass, which can be fuel for forest fires during periods of drought.[22]

The Climate Change Resource Brief for CUGA[23] explains that "climate change will manifest itself not only as changes in average conditions … but also as changes in particular climate events (e.g. more intense storms, flood, or drought)." A second NPS climate study for CUGA states that, under the highest emissions scenario, climate models project fifteen to twenty more days per year with a maximum temperature greater than 95 degrees by 2100, and the occurrence of twenty-year storms is projected to increase to once every five years.[24] The elevation of Hensley Settlement is much higher than that of the rest of CUGA, so some of the climate predictions may be different, but the effects of climate change will likely be significant, as changes in climate can alter ecosystems, food sources, drainage, vegetation, and tree canopy.

Although the Settlement structures that are in good condition appear to be safe from the direct effects of climate change, there may be unforeseen challenges. Since most of the built landscape is made from raw wood, exterior materials such as shingles, siding, rails, and posts may need to be replaced more regularly, as materials will likely be exposed to wetter conditions and higher temperatures. The structures located in the forest are in a state of decline; therefore, they are more susceptible and may decompose faster if exposed to a more extreme environment.

Climate changes, such as heavier rainstorms, can cause erosion and exposure of archeological resources and can also cause the rapid process of decay to begin. Future archeological work may be affected as well, as resources may be compromised because a warmer climate promotes increased vegetation growth, which in turn can disturb the stratigraphy of the soil; heavier rainstorms will also promote erosion and decay.[25]

18 G. A. Meehl, J. M. Arblaster, and C. T. Y. Chung, "Disappearance of the Southeast U.S. 'Warming Hole' with the Late 1990s Transition of the Interdecadal Pacific Oscillation," *Geophysical Research Letters* 42, no. 13 (July 16, 2015): 5564–70.

19 *Climate Science Special Report: Fourth National Climate Assessment*, vol. 2 (Washington, DC: US Global Change Research Program, 2017), science2017.globalchange.gov/. 743–808.

20 *Climate Science Special Report: Fourth National Climate Assessment*, vol. 1 (Washington, DC: US Global Change Research Program, 2017), science2017.globalchange.gov/.

21 "What Climate Change Means for Kentucky," EPA in Kentucky, Environmental Protection Agency, January 19, 2017, https://www.epa.gov/ky.

22 Jacob Margolis, "The Invasive, Flammable Plants Making California's Fires Worse," Southern California Public Radio, National Public Radio, December 22, 2017, www.scpr.org/news/2017/12/12/78789/the-invasive-flammable-plants-making-california-s/.

23 William B. Monahan and Nicholas A. Fisichelli, "Recent Climate Change Exposure of Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. National Park Service," US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, July 29, 2014, www.irma.nps.gov/Datastore/DownloadFile/497257.

24 Patrick Gonzalez, *Climate Change Summary, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, USA. National Park Service Climate Change Response Program* Washington, DC: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, January 7, 2015), irma.nps.gov/Datastore/DownloadFile/519244.

25 Elia Kabanov, "Climate Change Could Ruin Archeological Sites before We Get the Chance to Study Them," *Grist*, June 19, 2019, https://grist.org/article/climate-change-could-ruin-archeological-sites-before-we-get-the-chance-to-study-them/.

Natural systems and vegetation are also vulnerable within Hensley Settlement. Vegetation, such as the apple trees, is considered a cultural resource within the Settlement and is a direct link to understanding how the families sustained life on the mountain. The health of some species could be affected by higher temperatures. There are different apple tree varieties that thrive in different temperatures. Some are heat lovers, such as the Grimes Golden and Winesap, which will do well; varieties such as the McIntosh, however, perform better in cold weather and likely will not survive. If conditions change and new varieties are planted, Rome Beauty is a good substitute that can withstand higher heat and less rain.[26]

The effects of rainfall and temperature changes are not likely to reduce the overall forest canopy, but these changes will alter the makeup of the forests. Native species that have historically performed well, such as sugar maples, will likely begin to decline in favor of oak and hickory trees that are dominant in the region. Climate change will likely increase insect-related decline of tree species as well.[27] Another issue that may affect visitation is the spread of vector-borne diseases by ticks and mosquitos. This will be exacerbated by longer and hotter summers.[28]

The Relationship of Structures and Topography

Although technically on Hensley Flats, most structures in the Settlement are on a total of roughly sixty acres of cleared and open land characterized by rolling topography of alternating slopes and valleys. The Willie Gibbons Farmstead (**Figure 3-3**) is located on the southwestern edge of the clearing in the forest, midway on the southwest side of a slope. East of the structures, a stone wall retains land on the western side of the hillslope, creating a flat surface for the access path that now serves as the visitor trail. Structures are arranged in a line following the topography and are accessed from the path on the east side of the structures (**Figure 3-4**). A spring flows south into the valley only feet away, west of the structures.

26 Susan A. Dolan, "Historic Apple Orchards," phone interview with author, January 28, 2020.

27 "What Climate Change Means for Kentucky."

28 Ryan Van Velzer, "Ky. Won't Escape Human-Driven Climate Change, Federal Report Warns," 89.3 WFPL News Louisville, November 27, 2018, https://wfpl.org/kentucky-wont-escape-human-driven-climate-change-federal-report-warns/.

The Lige Gibbons Farmstead (**Figure 3-5**) is in the southern part of the clearing and is surrounded by forest on the east and south sides. The structures are located midway on the southern face of a slope. The Brush Mountain School House is in the center of the Settlement, surrounded by forest on the west and south sides. Along with the nearby Hensley Cemetery, it is located on one of the highest parts of the Settlement.

On the eastern half of the Settlement, the Finley Hensley House is located at a lower elevation than the Bert Hensley and Park Hensley Houses. It is at the base of a southern-facing slope, a few feet away from a spring. A mature forest surrounds the west side. The Bert Hensley House is perched on a slight west-facing slope. The Park Hensley House is on a southern slope and is the easternmost structure in the clearing.

Within a cleared section of the forest, the Liege Hensley House is in a valley protected by hills on the north and south sides. A spring originates immediately west of the house site. The Wallace Hensley House site is located near the top of a hill, on a slight southern slope. South of that site, the Sherman Hensley House site sits in a valley with hills to the south and north.

Spatial Organization and Cluster Arrangement

Spatial organization is the arrangement of elements that create the ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create space. Within Hensley Settlement, there are three distinct space typologies: mature forest, open land with specimen trees and tree groupings, and space among man-made structures.

Natural elements affecting the spatial organization of the broader landscape of Hensley Settlement are defined by the topography of the green rolling slopes and swales, the specimen trees and the small tree groupings dotting the landscape, the backdrop of the surrounding mature forest, and the open sky above. Within this setting, small and large unpainted, weathered wooden structures punctuate the landscape.

From west Farm Road Trail, the visitor experience is dramatic, transitioning from a forested, protected space to open, cleared land.



FIGURE 3–3. View looking south into the Willie Gibbons Farmstead. The house burned down in 2000 and all that remains is visible in the foreground. The hen house is visible behind the chimney, the granary is visible to the left of the chimney, and the barn is far left. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–4. View from a path looking south toward the Willie Gibbons Farmstead. The blacksmith shop, spring house, wood shed, chimney remains, and hen house are visible to the right. The granary is in the center of the path, and the barn is visible to the left beyond the fence and hill. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–5. View of Lige Gibbons Farmstead. From left to right are the house, corn crib, hen house, hog pen, and barn. Source: Photo by STA staff, October 2019

Open Land with Individual Trees and Tree Groupings

Within the cleared area of Hensley Settlement, the ground plane is characterized as rolling topography covered in grass, as seen in **Figure 3-2**. Among the hills and valleys and along parts of the pathways, individual trees and tree groupings provide a vertical plane and a scale reference for objects nearby. The tree canopies provide the overhead plane and shelter land below. Although the Settlement has an open character, individual trees and building clusters provide a sense of protection and enclosure.

Apple Orchards

Both small and large apple trees are present around all the farmsteads. Some are located along fence rows, and some are in grassed areas. Although there does not appear to be an orchard or formal grove arrangement present around the farmsteads, aerial maps dating from the period of significance indicate a much larger number and cluster of apple trees adjacent to the Willie Gibbons, Lige Gibbons, and Bert Hensley Farmsteads. Orchard remnants are currently found in the original orchard locations.[29] The remnants are part of a larger farmstead spatial arrangement and are located near the farmstead cabins.

Within the Willie Gibbons cluster arrangement, the apple trees are located on the southeastern hillside, facing the house ruin. The apple trees are on relatively steep land that would have been difficult to use for any other purpose. The orientation was also advantageous since the trees would benefit from morning and southern sun. Tree spacing during the period of significance does not appear to be in a grid pattern, and the present remnants do not reflect an ordered arrangement.

East of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, the Lige Gibbons Farmstead is located on a south-facing slope. His apple trees were located just north of the house. Although presently there are a few larger-specimen apple trees in the proximity of the Lige Gibbons outbuildings, there are no remnant apple trees north of the cabin, where the orchard existed during the period of significance. According to historic aerial maps, the apple tree arrangement north of the Lige Gibbons House appears to be in grid form.

The last orchard within the period of significance was located south of the Bert Hensley House and north of the Park Hensley House in a fenced area associated with the Bert Hensley Farmstead (**Figure 3-6**). Few remnant apple trees presently remain in this area. According to historic aerial maps that date to the period of significance, the apple trees in this area appear to be equally spaced, although not in a complete grid. Several mature apple trees were observed near the Finley Hensley House, but they do not appear to be part of a grid arrangement (**Figure 3-7**).

Mature Forest

The cleared land that largely comprises Hensley Settlement is surrounded by a second- and third-growth forest. Spatially, the forest is dense, with canopies covering much of the overhead horizontal plane during the spring and summer months. The forest also serves as a vertical-plane backdrop for topographical and architectural features.

29 Diameter Breast Height (DBH) and DNA testing will be needed to confirm age of each tree.



FIGURE 3–6. View of apple tree at the Bert Hensley Farmstead that has a good, upright form. Source: Photo by CUGA staff, March 25, 2009



FIGURE 3–7. View of a historic apple tree near the Finley Hensley House that has fallen over but continues to grow. There is some dead wood and hollowed-out bark where a large limb was lost. Source: Photo by CUGA staff, March 25, 2009



FIGURE 3–8. Part of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead is clustered along a linear path, roughly at the same elevation. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017

Cluster Arrangement and Space among Man-Made Structures

Three main destinations demonstrate a cluster arrangement. The first is the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, the second is the Lige Gibbons Farmstead, and the third is the arrangement of the Brush Mountain School House and Hensley Cemetery. Each destination has a unique spatial organization based on land-ownership boundaries and sun direction.

Architecture provides a penetrable vertical plane, and the arrangement of these structures—a near-straight line at the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, **Figure 3-8**, and a curved line at the Lige Gibbons Farmstead, **Figure 3-9**—provides a linear barrier and a cradled barrier, respectively. The linear arrangement at the Willie Gibbons Farmstead is efficient and responds to the cluster siting, midway down the hill at roughly the same elevation, with the spring below. The structures are protected in the valley and face east, toward the path and hill.

The Lige Gibbons Farmstead structures are arranged in a slight curve, facing north, along a flat ridge that runs east to west. The curve of the building arrangement can be described as concave, with the buildings facing inward. There is a depression north of the outbuildings and a significant slope south, behind the buildings.

The Brush Mountain School House (**Figure 3-10**) sits at the edge of the forest, and Hensley Cemetery (**Figure 3-11**) is enclosed by a paling fence. Graves are arranged in an inconsistent grid pattern facing east, and there are a small number of unmarked graves.



FIGURE 3–9. View from a path within the Lige Gibbons Farmstead. The outbuildings are arranged in an arc. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–10. The Brush Mountain School House is viewed from the cemetery looking southwest. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–11. View of the cemetery. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–12. West facade of the Bert Hensley House. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–13. South facade of the Finley Hensley House. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–14. The Park Hensley House is the first structure encountered when hiking from Farm Road Trail from the east. View of the east facade. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–15. The Liege Hensley House is preserved in a clearing, surrounded by forest. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–16. Stones and brush are all that remains of the Wallace Hensley Farmstead. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017

On the eastern half of the Settlement, three farmsteads survive with limited outbuildings—those that belonged to Bert Hensley, Finley Hensley, and Park Hensley, **Figures 3-12, 3-13, and 3-14**, respectively. Therefore, it is difficult to comprehend the cluster arrangement of the three separate main houses with little context of what may have existed in their immediate vicinities. If viewed collectively as a cluster, the farmsteads are roughly four hundred feet from one another. Wood fences frame the land around each farmstead and enclose visitor paths.

Five sites exist within the forest, beyond the eastern border of the cleared area. The Liege Hensley House, **Figure 3-15**, is the only structure that remains intact, while only traces of the other structures remain. A stone pile in a clearing demarcates the remains of the Wallace Hensley House (**Figure 3-16**), and there are no remains of the nearby barn, therefore it is not legible as a farmstead location. Stone foundations are visible at the Sherman Hensley House (**Figure 3-17**), and wooden remnants are visible of the stock pen, corn crib, hen house, and smokehouse, but vegetation and brush are quickly reclaiming this site. The fourth site within the historic boundary is the Oscar Hensley Farmstead, where only stone foundations are visible. The last site in this area is the Gillis Lee House, where a level building pad is the only indicator of the house site. The five sites in the forest are isolated and only relate to the immediate clearing and vegetation.



FIGURE 3–17. The chimney stack and foundations of the Sherman Hensley Farmstead are visible on the ground plane but are quickly being reclaimed by the forest. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017

Based on observations of all sites, it is assumed that the land was never graded before the structures were built. They are placed on stacked stone piers, which vary in height based on how the structure is sited on the hillside slope.

Land Use

The principal use of Hensley Settlement is currently for the preservation and interpretation of an Appalachian community family farming settlement occupied between 1903 and 1951.

Cultural Traditions

Descendants of the Gibbons and Hensley families gather at the Settlement annually in August (and during other times of the year) for a graveside visit.

Circulation

Roads

The main one-lane unimproved gravel road that provides vehicular access to the site is Shillalah Creek Road, which leads from Highway 217 (**Figure 3-18**). It ascends Brush Mountain, runs along the northern edge of the Settlement, and loops through the maintenance area on the eastern edge of the Settlement. This route is roughly forty-five minutes from the visitor center. Half of the drive occurs on the unimproved Shillalah Creek Road, which is surfaced in different areas with gravel, dirt, and limestone, depending on traction needs. In steep areas, concrete surfaces provide stability. As the road enters the Settlement, the name changes to Hensley Perimeter Road (**Figure 3-19**). At this point, the road is surfaced with limestone. It leads to a loop within the maintenance area and terminates near the Park Hensley House. Although the access road is gated at the highway juncture and is closed to public vehicular access except for a few special events during the year, the road is open to hikers, bike riders, and horseback riders.

Apart from specific events, parking on-site is minimal and is closed to all non-NPS vehicular traffic. Two gravel parking spaces are located at the comfort station, west of the Settlement. Within the maintenance area east of the Settlement, there are informal parking spaces in grass, adjacent to the gravel road.



FIGURE 3–18. Shillalah Creek Road. Source: Photo by STA staff, October 2019



FIGURE 3–19. Hensley Perimeter Road near the maintenance area. Farm Road Trail is left, along the fence line. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017

Several grassed roads are visible within the pastures. A grassed road runs south along a fence line to the cemetery. Halfway to the cemetery, the road forks west, runs through the pasture, and joins Farm Road Trail between the Willie Gibbons and Lige Gibbons Farmsteads. On the eastern edge of the property, a grassed road emerges from the maintenance area, leads west through a pasture, and terminates at the Bert Hensley House. A gravel road originates from the maintenance area, leads southwest, and terminates at a pasture next to the Park Hensley House where Farm Road Trail emerges from the forest. The Hensley Settlement radio repeater is accessible from this road.

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park Trails

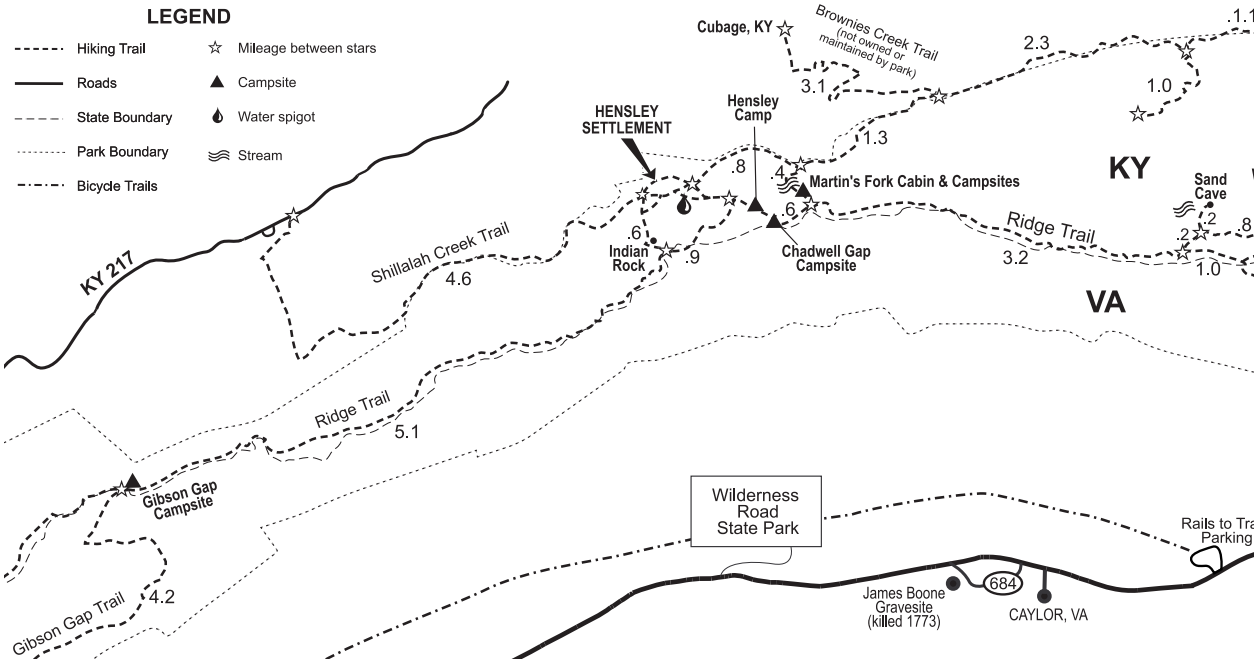


FIGURE 3–20. Cumberland Gap National Historical Park Trails and Campsites Map. Source: www.nps.gov/cuga/planyourvisit/upload/Hiking%20and%20Camping.pdf

Trails

The site is accessible by trails that connect Hensley Settlement to the other attractions within CUGA, as can be seen in **Figure 3-20**. The four access trails into the Settlement are both hiking and equestrian trails. Shillalah Creek Road approaches from the west, and Brownies Creek Road approaches from the east. The Ridge Trail spans most of the national park on top of Cumberland Mountain and bypasses the Settlement to the south. From the Ridge Trail, the Settlement is accessed via Farm Road Trail from the southeast and the Indian Rock Trail from the south. All are part of a larger trail network that spans other portions of the national park. Within Hensley Settlement, pedestrian paths are mostly grassed and are sometimes surfaced with dirt and gravel, as seen in **Figures 3-21** and **3-22**.

Farm Road Trail begins near the comfort station west of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead and is the main trail that bisects the Settlement. Several spurs lead from this main path to farmsteads and house sites. In the western part of the Settlement, the road leads over a land bridge northwest of the Willie Gibbons Blacksmith Shop, through the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, and past the Grant Hensley Farmstead. The minor path meets Farm Road Trail northeast of the Grant Hensley Farmstead. Farm Road Trail continues east to the Lige Gibbons Farmstead, the school house, and the cemetery. After passing the cemetery, it splits northeast toward Brownies Creek Road and south toward the Bert Hensley House. Brownies Creek Road begins at the tree line and is the historic approach and access to the Settlement. The portion of Farm Road Trail that splits south leads to the Bert Hensley House, and minor trails lead to the Park Hensley House and the Finley Hensley Farmstead. The trail passes adjacent to the Bert Hensley Farmstead, turns southeast at the Park Hensley House, and continues into the forest, where it meets the Ridge Trail southeast of the Settlement.

The Finley Hensley Farmstead is accessed from a grass path leading from Farm Road Trail. South of the Finley Hensley House, next to the tree line, a firebreak trail leads down to a creek and terminates at an apple tree.

The Wallace Hensley Farmstead is accessed from both Farm Road Trail and the Ridge Trail. West of the Wallace Hensley Farmstead, the Liege Hensley House is accessed from the Liege Hensley House Trail, which passes next to the Wallace Hensley Farmstead. The Sherman Hensley Farmstead is located south of the Wallace Hensley Farmstead



FIGURE 3–21. Typical grassed trail within Hensley Settlement. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–22. Trail character within the forest. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017

and is adjacent to the Ridge Trail. The trail continues southwest and passes near the Oscar Hensley Farmstead.

Trails surrounding and within Hensley Settlement are a popular hiking destination. A half mile southeast of the Settlement, Chadwell Gap is a natural feature and popular hiking destination accessed from a trailhead north of Caylor, Virginia. Between Chadwell Gap and Hensley Settlement is Hensley Camp, a tent-camping location located a quarter mile southeast of the Settlement. Although the Chadwell Gap Trail is classified as "strenuous," many hikers visit Hensley Settlement from this route.

Vegetation

According to the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map, Hensley Settlement falls within zone 6b.[30] Most vegetation in the Settlement is a combination of grassed fields, seasonally mown pastures, and deciduous trees—a mix of oaks, maples, and a few sourwood and pine trees. Existing fields are bushhogged one or two times a year. Some shrubs and small trees have established along fencerows.

Apple Trees

The most significant cultural vegetative features are apple trees that were planted to contribute to the food supply for the Settlement. They serve as a tangible and direct connection to the people who lived at Hensley Settlement. There are several apple cultivars (*Malus domestica* cvs.) known to exist at the Settlement including Black Ben Davis, Red Ben Davis, Lock Apples, and Paw Paw Apples. Varieties mentioned in the oral histories are Winesap, Delicious (color isn't specified, so likely Red Delicious), Lock Apple, Brown Apple, Red Ben Davis, Black Ben Davis, Little Sweet Apples, Big Sweet Apples, Rays of Green, and Paw Paw Apple.[31]

Apple trees have been mapped and are documented on CUGA ArcGIS digital files as natural or replanted from grafted specimens. Apple trees were geolocated in 2008, and the resulting map of "natural" trees provides a record of what existed at that time. It is unknown whether trees designated as natural are original to the Settlement or were replanted by the CUGA Job Corps.

Some apple trees have been lost since the 2008 documentation effort. Researchers were able to confirm some tree locations, but others were not found in the locations indicated on the map. Several old specimens are along the path east of the Willie Gibbons House (ruin), and a mix of new and old specimens are on the southeastern-facing slope, west of the house (**Figure 3-23**). Some apple trees are west of the house, along the natural swale fed by a nearby spring. A single large specimen is near the Willie Gibbons Hog House, and there are a few new apple tree plantings within the fenced area, north of the barn. East of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, a few older specimens are near the Grant Hensley House (ruin). Additional older specimens and new plantings are in the field west of the Willie Gibbons Sheep Barn.

A few mature apple trees are located within the Lige Gibbons Farmstead. One is southwest of the hog pen, one is east of the corn crib, and one is southwest of the outhouse, in the woods. New apple tree plantings are south of the house.

A few large-specimen apple trees are near the Finley Hensley House, and a few north of the house are being encroached upon by the adjacent woodland. South of the Finley Hensley House, a firebreak trail leads to a creek and terminates at a previously unknown apple tree. The tree is mature, approximately twelve feet tall, and there are no known farmstead sites nearby. There were many traces of bear activity in this area.

Other mature apple trees are between the Finley Hensley House and the Bert Hensley House, between the Finley Hensley House and the Park Hensley House, and in a fenced area south of the Bert Hensley House. New plantings are west of the Bert Hensley House.

Within the forest, there are apple trees at one farmstead. One mature apple tree exists near the Wallace Hensley House (ruin). Several new apple tree plantings are in the nearby open area.

Other Farmstead Indicator Plants

Another indicator plant found around some existing and former house sites is Yucca (*Yucca filamentosa*), **Figure 3-24**. It is found around the Willie Gibbons House, the Lige Gibbons House, and the former location of the Grant Hensley Farmstead. The plant may have been present adjacent to other farmsteads, but physical evidence was not found on the research visit. Roses (*Rosa* cvs.) were also previously noted by park staff at the Grant Hensley House (ruin). This plant was not visible during multiple visits to the site by researchers, and park staff speculated that the plant may have been unintentionally destroyed during scheduled mowing.

In the cemetery, irises (*Iris* cvs.) are found in the corners, and a sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboreum*)

30 PRISM Climate Group, *USDA Hardiness Zone Interactive Map*, United States Department of Agriculture, accessed May 21, 2018, planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/InteractiveMap.aspx.

31 Herbert Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, July 9, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 22, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY; Jess Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, September 10, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 62, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.



FIGURE 3–23. Apple trees west of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead. Source: Photo by STA staff, October 2019



FIGURE 3–24. *Yucca filamentosa* is found near existing and former home sites. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017

Image	Scientific / Common	Locations
	*Malus pumila* cvs. / Apple	Found at every farmstead. Trees are documented in GIS.
	*Yucca filamentosa* / Yucca	Willie Gibbons house, Lige Gibbons house, Grant Hensley house ruins.
	*Oxydendrum arboreum* / Sourwood	Cemetery.
	*Iris* cvs. / Iris	Cemetery, Bert Hensley house.

FIGURE 3–25. Table depicting cultural vegetation found at Hensley Settlement. Source: STA

is adjacent to the western fence of the cemetery. Irises are also found in several fence corners adjacent to the Bert Hensley House. Further, irises and other plant materials—especially spring blooming bulbs—may have been present adjacent to other farmsteads, but physical evidence was not seen during the research visits (**Figure 3-25**).

Views and Vistas

Views are defined as the expansive or panoramic range of vision that occurs naturally or is designed. Vistas are a designed linear range of vision.[32] Although there are no vistas at the Settlement, there are significant views that occur internally and are framed by topography, trees, and structures. It is assumed that views are naturally occurring since it is not apparent that the original settlers located their farmsteads based on that determinant. The first view, west of the Settlement as visitors emerge from the forest, is of hayfields, rolling hills, and specimen trees (**Figure 3-26**). Views are partially obscured by fences on the north and south sides of the grassed path. Moving east, down a hill, a view of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead comes into sight. Structures are tucked into the valley, and the spring house and creek are visible (**Figure 3-27**). An additional view of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead is from the Indian Rock Trail, which emerges from the forest south of the hen house (**Figure 3-28**). Within the forest and along the trail near the Willie Gibbons Outhouse, several outbuildings are visible through the trees and forest growth.

32 Robert R. Page, Cathy A. Gilbert, and Susan A. Dolan, *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques* (Washington, DC: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, 2004), 10.



FIGURE 3–26. The first view of Hensley Settlement as the visitor emerges from the forest. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–27. View looking toward the Willie Gibbons Farmstead. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–28. The first view of Hensley Settlement as the visitor emerges from Indian Rock Trail. Source: Photo by STA staff, October 2019

The next significant view is from the gateway leading to the Lige Gibbons Farmstead looking south toward the structures that are placed at a lower elevation (**Figure 3-29**). A deciduous forest surrounds the farmstead, creating a pastoral setting that is especially beautiful when trees change color in the fall.

Within the cemetery looking west, (**Figure 3-30**) the view captures gravestones in the foreground, a fence and a specimen sourwood tree in the middle ground, and a deciduous forest in the background to the south and west.

As hikers emerge from the forest on Farm Road Trail at the east end of the Settlement, a view of the Park Hensley House appears past a hill and some trees, with a hill and forest beyond. At the Farm Road Trail split, the Bert Hensley House, Finley Hensley Barn, and Park Hensley House are part of a significant viewshed looking south through the valley.

Approaching from Brownies Creek Road, a significant view is revealed looking west toward Hensley Perimeter Road and southwest down Farm Road Trail.

On the eastern portion of the Settlement, as the visitor walks west on the Ridge Trail through the forest, a view opens from the forest to a clearing containing the Liege Hensley House (**Figure 3-31**).

Inward views within the Settlement are pleasant. Views from the Settlement outward into the surrounding landscape are obstructed by native understory vegetation and tree canopy. Fifty feet north of Hensley Perimeter Road, in line with the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, views through the canopy north reveal Pine Mountain in Kentucky (**Figure 3-32**).

Small-Scale Features

Small-scale features provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape. Related features are documented in the following categories: cultural features, fences and gates, farm equipment, signs, visitor conveniences, and miscellaneous small-scale features.

Cultural Features

Small-scale features that contribute to the Hensley Settlement story are classified within this section as



FIGURE 3–29. Southeast view from Farm Road Trail toward the Lige Gibbons House. Source: Photo by STA staff, October 2019



FIGURE 3–30. Western view of the cemetery. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–31. The Liege Hensley House stands in a clearing and is surrounded by forest. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–32. View north into Kentucky and to Pine Mountain from north of Hensley Perimeter Road. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017.



FIGURE 3–33. Four fence types are found in the Settlement—paling, worm, post and rail (all wood), and barbed wire (attached to wooden posts). Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017

cultural features. The most prominent small-scale cultural features are the forty grave markers within the cemetery fence. Other features located near farmsteads are a three-by-three-foot concrete pad thirty feet south of the Bert Hensley House and two cast-iron pots near the porch of the Finley Hensley House.

Fences and Gates

Various types of wood fencing are a frequent and conspicuous element that enclose many paths throughout the Settlement. The NPS has constructed fences for interpretative purposes, to mark the edges of visitor paths, and to provide a barrier between the circulation route and the surrounding landscape.

There are several types—paling, post and rail, worm, and barbed wire—that occur within the Settlement that are used to interpret the purpose of each respective barrier design (**Figure 3-33**). Paling fences have a pointed picket intended to control poultry and other livestock from entering house yards and vegetable gardens.[33] The pickets are attached to wooden rails, which are attached to wooden posts. The pickets were usually made from oak.[34] Worm fences (**Figure 3-34**) are constructed from stacked hewn logs and are arranged in a zigzag pattern. Wooden posts are usually placed at the intersection of two fence-panel planes. Logs from each plane are stacked, alternated, and attached to the post to provide strength to each panel. At Hensley Settlement, logs were sawed in eight-foot lengths, split, stacked eight rails high, and staked at each lock.[35]

33 Wallace Hensley and Stella Hensley (Mrs. Wallace Hensley), interview by Lloyd Abelson, August 14, 1964, Oral History Tape Number 3, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

34 Wallace Hensley and Stella Hensley (Mrs. Wallace Hensley), August 14, 1964, Oral History Tape Number 3.

35 Wallace Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 11, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.



FIGURE 3–34. Example of worm fence in foreground and paling fence on right in background, grassed path between. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–35. Wooden gateway leading to the Willie Gibbons Barn. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017

The post and rail wooden fences are linear, and the panels are made from stacking hewn wood. The logs are stacked between four wooden posts, two on each end, and the logs alternate to provide panel stability. The horizontal rails were made mostly from chestnut trees and sometimes from oak. The worm and stacked fences were used to keep grazing animals such as hogs, sheep, and cattle from farmland. They were also used to pasture livestock in meadows.[36]

The barbed-wire fence is made from barbed wire strung between wooden posts. The strings run horizontal and are attached roughly eight inches apart. Barbed-wire fencing was sometimes used in conjunction with other types to keep in livestock.[37] Another version of the barbed-wire fence was noted as beginning south of the Willie Gibbons Barn leading east across the Settlement, turning north-northwest at the Park Hensley House, and terminating past the maintenance area. This version includes wood posts and hog wire fencing with a barbed-wire strand at the top. It was determined that this fence was part of the NPS interpretive program in the 1970s that included livestock. Wooden gateways, such as the one found at the

36 Wallace Hensley and Stella Hensley (Mrs. Wallace Hensley), August 14, 1964, Oral History Tape Number 3.

37 Lige Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 5, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 9, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.



FIGURE 3–36. East stacked stone pile, northwest of Hensley Perimeter Road. Source: Photo by STA staff, October 2019

Willie Gibbons Barn (**Figure 3-35**), mark entrances into farmsteads and are built from tall wooden posts with a top rail.

Stone fences were mentioned in several oral interviews, including one with Hubert Hensley. According to the interview, the stone was pulled from the pastures as land was cleared for cultivation.[38] A stone pile was observed approximately one hundred feet north of Hensley Perimeter Road. The pile runs for approximately four hundred feet southwest to northeast, roughly parallel to the road. There are two stacked stone features within the pile. One is nearly in line with the Willie Gibbons Farmstead and measures about six feet in length. One is directly northeast at the terminus of the rock pile and spans a swale (**Figure 3-36**). It is approximately twenty feet in length and could possibly be a historic weir structure. This feature is outside the historic district.

Although mentioned in an interview with Herbert, "little blocks of stone fences"[39] within the Willie Gibbons Farmstead were not observed in the current Hensley Settlement Historic District. Perhaps when Herbert was asked about fences, he recalled the stone retaining wall east of the path leading to the Willie Gibbons Farmstead. Alternatively, there is a possibility that the stone piles found northwest of Hensley Perimeter Road are in fact the stone walls Herbert mentioned. The piles would have been located within the boundaries of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead during the Hensley Settlement period of significance.

Additionally, Wallace Hensley mentioned a "stone fence in between the ledges of a cliff on the Virginia side."[40] In his interview, Jess Gibbons mentions "stone fences" behind the cemetery.[41] The location and condition of the stone fences are unknown.

38 Herbert Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, July 9, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 19, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

39 Herbert Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, May 28, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 5, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

40 Wallace Hensley, June 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 11.

41 Jess Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, March 1, 1971, Oral History Tape Number 72, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.



FIGURE 3–37. Hay rake behind the Willie Gibbons Barn. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–38. Millstones near the Willie Gibbons Granary. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017

Farm Equipment

Two rusted hay rakes are located on the Settlement, one behind the Willie Gibbons Barn and one along the path to the Lige Gibbons Farmstead (**Figure 3-37**). They are not part of the museum collection and are most likely part of the interpretive program from the 1970s. Their origins are unknown. Two millstones lie behind the Willie Gibbons Barn (**Figure 3-38**). They were brought to the Settlement from Bartlett Park for interpretive purposes.

Signs

Signage is concentrated near the east and west entrances as visitors emerge from the forest into the Hensley Settlement clearing. From the west, the two wooden signs are labeled "No Horses" and "Hensley Settlement Area—Camping Prohibited" with two blank wood panels below (**Figure 3-39**). There are two contemporary metal signs that contain text interpreting the site and historic photos of the Settlement. One is located west of Hensley Settlement near Shillalah Creek Road, and another is east of the Settlement near Farm Road Trail (**Figures 3-40** and **3-41**). The wooden "Hensley" sign is south of the path. The newer metal sign is also south of the path, approximately twenty feet east of the wooden "Hensley" sign. East of the metal signs, there is a sign stating "No Horses Beyond This Point" (**Figure 3-42**). South of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead on the Indian Rock Trail, a sign reads "Hensley Settlement Please No Camping or Fires in Historic District Horses use Perimeter Road," (**Figure 3-43**) and trail mile markers are also visible (**Figure 3-44**).

There is a wooden sign with text reading "No Horses Beyond This Point" north of the maintenance area after Brownies Creek Trail emerges from the forest (**Figure 3-45**). A "Maintenance Area" sign (**Figure 3-46**) that marks the dirt road leading north to the maintenance buildings is located adjacent to Farm Road Trail.



FIGURE 3–39. Wooden sign west of Hensley Settlement adjacent to Shillalah Creek Trail. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–40. Graphic aluminum sign west of Hensley Settlement adjacent to Shillalah Creek Trail. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–41. Graphic aluminum sign east of Hensley Settlement adjacent to Farm Road Trail and near the Park Hensley House with "No Horses Beyond This Point" sign, as well as recycling and trash receptacles in rear. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–42. Wooden "No Horses Beyond This Point" sign west of Hensley Settlement adjacent to Shillalah Creek Trail. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–43. Wooden Hensley Settlement sign south of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, along Indian Rock Trail. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–44. Wooden mile marker sign south of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, along Indian Rock Trail. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–45. Wooden "No Horses Beyond This Point" sign east of Hensley Settlement adjacent to Farm Road Trail. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–46. Wooden "Maintenance Area" sign east of Hensley Settlement adjacent to Farm Road Trail. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–47. Wooden "No Horses Beyond This Point" sign east of Hensley Settlement adjacent to Farm Road Trail. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–48. East from Farm Road Trail, recycling and litter receptacles visible in foreground, as well as the rear of the "No Horses Beyond This Point" and graphic aluminum Hensley Settlement signage. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017

Visitor Conveniences

Several small-scale features occur that do not have historic context but are provided only for visitor comfort and convenience. These items blend into the landscape with varying success.

Litter and recycle receptacles are consistent in size and color and occur in four locations within the Settlement. Brown two-compartment receptacles are provided for nonrecyclables (**Figure 3-47**), and green two-compartment receptacles (**Figure 3-48**) are provided for recyclables. They are located at the comfort station west of the Settlement; as Farm Road Trail emerges from the forest near the Park Hensley House east of the Settlement; and as Brownies Creek Road emerges from the forest to the northeast. There are also enclosures southeast of the Bert Hensley House, adjacent to the gate that leads to the structure. This is the only receptacle set that is visible within the Settlement clearing.

Two wood and metal picnic tables are provided on a hill east of the Park Hensley House. They are visible as hikers emerge from Farm Road Trail to the east. The tables, along with a water spigot, a metal cover for a water valve, and a survey marker, interrupt views from Farm Road Trail toward the Park Hensley House. The spigot type that occurs throughout the Settlement is a metal pipe that extends two to three feet from grade level and has a blue valve on the top. This spigot provides water for park backcountry



FIGURE 3–49. Items that detract from the views toward Park Hensley's house. Source: Photos by STA staff, September 2017

visitors during the spring, summer, and fall (**Figure 3-49**).

Within the Bert Hensley Farmstead, a small feature exists whose purpose is unknown. There is a wood post with a wooden member at the top that is angled 90 degrees from the post and resembles a sign structure. There is also a metal box in the corner of a fenced area southeast of the house. The box houses a water hose for fire response. A spigot is also located in this area.

Southwest of the Park Hensley House, a stone chimney stands approximately six feet tall next to the fence line. The chimney is not historic and is periodically used for interpretive purposes (**Figure 3-50**).

Within the clearing of the Liege Hensley House, a nonhistoric round metal fire pit is located a few feet away. The pit is approximately three feet in diameter, and ash was noted on the interior. This feature could be considered a hazard due to its proximity to the historic house. On the porch of the house, there is a metal square that could possibly be a lid for the fire pit.

Few small-scale features are visible at the Finley Hensley Farmstead. A small cut-stone fire pit is located near the house, a wheelbarrow is visible below the porch, and there are piles of replacement wood on the rear porch.

The repeater enclosure houses the communications system for CUGA and is located south of the maintenance shed and northeast of the Park Hensley House. Although the building and structure are not within the historic district, the tower is visible from parts of it and affects views within Hensley Settlement.

Adjacent to Hensley Cemetery, portable bathroom accommodations are brought in temporarily for special events.

Miscellaneous Small-Scale Features and Maintenance Materials

Throughout the Settlement, there are several small-scale features that could be considered miscellaneous. Southeast of the Bert Hensley Farmstead there is a triangular wooden structure, two feet in height, with a corrugated metal pipe nearby (**Figure 3-51**). The wooden structure marks an isolation valve for the water system. The pipe was intended to house the valve box to prevent dirt from entering the hole. Near the maintenance area, piles of wood stacked along the western edge of the tree line. Although the piles are outside of the historic district, they are noticeable from parts of the Settlement.



FIGURE 3–50. Demonstration chimney near the Park Hensley House. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–51. Wood structure marking water valve. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017

Archeological Resources

In July 2005, the Department of Anthropology at the University of Tennessee conducted an "Archeological Overview and Assessment of the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia." Their task was "to investigate, describe, and assess the known and potential archeological resources within the CUGA boundaries."[42] The researchers recommended that archeological work be performed at the following sites in Hensley Settlement: Willie Gibbons Complex, Lige Gibbons Complex, Park Hensley Complex, Hensley Cemetery, Bert Hensley Complex, Brush Mountain School House Complex, Finley Hensley Complex, Sherman Hensley Complex, Wallace Hensley Complex, Liege Hensley Complex, and Hensley Perimeter Road. The unidentified structure located on the 1903 Burton Hensley Survey and the locations of the Shillalah Creek Mill and the Martins Fork Mill could also yield important archeological data.

There are several sites that can be considered ruins and warrant further archeological investigation. East of the Bert Hensley House, a hog house is tilted 45 degrees and is in the process of collapsing. Three sites exist in the forest, east of the Settlement clearing. Within the forest, near Farm Road Trail, a stone pile is all that remains of the Wallace Hensley Farmstead. According to an NPS employee, the original stone foundations were disturbed by hikers and stacked in a pile. What remains is no longer representative of the original feature. The Wallace Hensley Barn once stood at the intersection of the Ridge Trail and the trail leading to the Liege Hensley House. There are no remnants visible on the ground surface.

South of the Wallace Hensley Farmstead is the Sherman Hensley Farmstead. Stone foundations are present marking the edges of the house site as well as a stone pile, which is most likely the chimney. Wood remnants are visible that mark the locations of the stock pen, corn crib, hen house, and smokehouse. Vegetation and brush are quickly reclaiming this site, and there are only a few posts still standing that mark the edge of the stock pen.

42 Todd M. Ahlman, Gail L. Guymon, and Nicholas P. Herrmann, *Archaeological Overview and Assessment of the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia* (Knoxville: Archaeological Research Laboratory, Department of Anthropology, University of Tennessee, July 2005), iii.

Southwest of the Sherman Hensley Farmstead, the Oscar Hensley Farmstead should be considered a sensitive archeological resource as well. This site was located, and all that remains are a few stacked stone piles that could indicate the main house foundation (**Figure 3-52**).

Southeast of the Sherman Hensley Farmstead, the Gillis Lee House should also be considered a sensitive archeological resource. A flat surface that is potentially the Gillis Lee House was found adjacent to the Ridge Trail. There was no physical evidence visible on the ground plane. An unidentified structure was found a short distance from the Gillis Lee site along a swale path leading north toward Shillalah Creek and the Sherman Hensley Farmstead (**Figure 3-53**). Rusted metal barrel rings and a single stacked stone foundation reaching approximately twelve inches in height were found nearby.

A stone pile was observed one hundred feet north of Hensley Perimeter Road. The pile runs roughly parallel to the road for approximately four hundred feet southwest to northeast. There are two stacked stone features within the pile. One is nearly in line with the Willie Gibbons Farmstead and measures about six feet in length (**Figure 3-54**), and the other is directly northeast at the terminus of the rock pile and spans a swale. It is approximately twenty feet in length and could possibly be a historic weir structure. This feature is outside the historic district.

South of the Finley Hensley House, a firebreak trail leads to a creek and terminates at a previously unknown and undocumented apple tree (**Figure 3-55**). The tree is mature, approximately twelve feet tall, and there are no known Settlement sites nearby. The presence of the tree could indicate prior human activity.

Although there are specific recommendations in the July 2005 report, the entire site should be considered an archeological resource and treated accordingly.

The following contributing resources are considered archeological resources:

- Willie Gibbons House (ruin) (CRIS# 7042), Barn (7043), Granary (7044), Smokehouse (ruin) (7045), Hen House (7046), Outhouse (7047), Spring House (7048), Apple Hole (7062), Hog House (7063), Woodshed (7065), Blacksmith Shop (7066), and Sheep Barn (7072)
- Brush Mountain School House (CRIS# 7049), Outhouse #1 (7074), and Outhouse #2 (7075)
- Liege Hensley House (CRIS# 7050)
- Lige Gibbons House (CRIS# 7051), Barn (7052), Hen House (7053), Corn Crib (7054), Outhouse (7055), and Hog Pen (7064)
- Sherman Hensley House (ruin) (CRIS# 7056), Corn Crib (ruin) (7057), Hen House (ruin) (7058), Smokehouse (ruin) (7069), and Stock Pen (ruin)
- Wallace Hensley House (ruin) (CRIS# 7059), and Barn (ruin)
- Finley Hensley House (CRIS# 7068), Barn (7061), Spring House Site, and Granary Site
- Bert Hensley Smokehouse (CRIS# 7071), Chicken House (7076), Hog House (7077), and Barn Site
- Hensley Cemetery (CRIS# 7075)
- Gillis Lee House (ruin)
- Oscar Hensley House (ruin)
- Grant Hensley Cabin (ruin)

Since the National Register nomination was written, the Willie Gibbons House and Smokehouse were lost due to a fire in 2001, and now they remain as ruins. The nomination should be updated to reflect this loss.

The following previously unidentified sites should be considered archeologically sensitive:

- Unidentified structure near the Sherman Hensley Farmstead
- Linear rock pile north of Hensley Perimeter Road
- Western stacked stone pile within the rock pile line
- Eastern stacked stone pile within the rock pile line, possible weir
- Single apple tree in the forest, between the Finley Hensley and Lige Gibbons Farmsteads

The following sites were not located in the field:

- Mill site
- Unidentified structure shown on the 1903 survey



FIGURE 3–52. Stacked stone pile associated with the Oscar Hensley Farmstead. Source: Photo by STA staff, October 2019



FIGURE 3–53. Unidentified structure with stone stack and barrel rings. Source: Photo by STA staff, October 2019



FIGURE 3–54. Stacked stone pile north of Hensley Perimeter Road. Source: Photo by STA staff, October 2019



FIGURE 3–55. The previously undocumented apple tree is located in the forest, west of the Finley Hensley House. Source: Photo by STA staff, October 2019

Buildings and Structures

The structures of Hensley Settlement are largely the product of reconstruction efforts by the CUGA Job Corps and the NPS. From the late 1960s to the mid-1970s, a large portion of the Settlement was reconstructed under the supervision of Jess Gibbons, a former resident. In most cases the buildings were not documented before work began, and no record was made of what early material was retained, other than an estimated percentage of the total new material. Early material used in reconstructions was often not original to the building being reconstructed or even to the Settlement. Later, historic timbers were collected from buildings all over the area and reused at the Settlement to create a more authentic look in the reconstructions. Additional phases of reconstruction carried on through the early 1980s. The percentages used in each of the assessments below are derived from the National Register nomination for Hensley Settlement from January 1980, as amended in 1997.[43]

Most structures are organized based on their association with a farmstead. The six remaining farmsteads identified include the Willie Gibbons, Lige Gibbons, Finley Hensley, Bert Hensley, Wallace Hensley, and Sherman Hensley Farmsteads. The Wallace, Sherman, and Oscar Hensley Farmsteads exist only as ruins. Three standalone structures are identified: the Liege Hensley House, the Park Hensley House, and the Brush Mountain School House (**Figures 3-56**).

The existing conditions of the architectural features of the Settlement are a general assessment of their condition in September 2017.

43 Jennifer D. Brown, "Hensley Settlement," National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form (Middlesboro, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1980, revised 1997).

Hensley Settlement Buildings and Structures National Register Status

This chart shows the current status of buildings and structures listed in the 1980 National Register and amended in 1997.

Contributing Buildings and Structures	Contributing Ruin	Contributing Site	Noncontributing
Willie Gibbons House	Wallace Hensley House	Finley Hensley Granary*	Finley Hensley Barn**
Willie Gibbons Smokehouse	Wallace Hensley Barn	Finley Hensley Springhouse*	Bert Hensley House **
Willie Gibbons Blacksmith Shop	Sherman Hensley House	Bert Hensley Barn*	Park Hensley House **
Willie Gibbons Spring House	Sherman Hensley Corn Crib		Bert Hensley Hog Pen***
Willie Gibbons Woodshed	Sherman Hensley Hen House		Maintenance Building****
Willie Gibbons Hen House	Sherman Hensley Stock Pen		Storage Building****
Willie Gibbons Outhouse	Sherman Hensley Smokehouse		Flammable Liquid Storage Building****
Willie Gibbons Granary	Oscar Hensley House		Pump House****
Willie Gibbons Barn	Gillis Lee House		Washhouse****
Willie Gibbons Hog House	Grant Hensley Cabin		Cook Shed****
Willie Gibbons Sheep Barn			
Willie Gibbons Apple Hole			
Lige Gibbons House			
Lige Gibbons Corn Crib			
Lige Gibbons Hen House			
Lige Gibbons Hog House			
Lige Gibbons Outhouse			
Lige Gibbons Barn			
Finley Hensley House			
Bert Hensley Smokehouse			
Bert Hensley Hen House			
Bert Hensley Hog House			
Liege Hensley House			
Brush Mountain School House			
Brush Mountain School Outhouse #1 West			
Brush Mountain School Outhouse #2 East			
Hensley Graveyard			
27 contributing structures	**10 contributing ruins**	**3 contributing sites**	**10 noncontributing structures**

*Changed to "site" in the 1997 amendment.

**Changed to "noncontributing" in the 1997 amendment.

***Not included in the 1980 NR and is therefore noncontributing.

**** Noncontributing structure demolished since 1979 NRN was written

FIGURE 3–56. The chart above shows the current status of buildings and structures listed in the 1980 National Register nomination for Hensley Settlement, which was amended in 1997. Source: STA



FIGURE 3–57. Overview of Willie Gibbons Farmstead looking south showing (nearest to farthest): blacksmith shop, spring house, wood shed, house ruins, hen house, and granary. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Willie Gibbons Farmstead

The Willie Gibbons Farmstead (**Figures 3-57, 3-114, and 3-115**) is on the western edge of the Settlement and is made up of nine structures and two ruins. Structures include a blacksmith shop, spring house, woodshed, hen house, outhouse, granary, barn, hog house, and sheep barn. The ruins include foundations for both a house and smokehouse.

Willie Gibbons Blacksmith Shop (CRIS# 7066)

The blacksmith shop is a one-story, shed-roofed log structure constructed in 1918 consisting of two rooms with a doorway holding a board-and-batten door on the north elevation and two east-facing window openings with hinged board-and-batten shutters. A stacked stone pier foundation with stone infill supports the exterior walls. Riven boards cover the log chinking on the interior and exterior. The interior has a dirt floor and a stone fireplace served by an east exterior chimney. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. The structure was reconstructed from 50 percent new material in 1968 (**Figures 3-58, 3-59, 3-114, and 3-115**).

Willie Gibbons Spring House (CRIS# 7048)

The spring house is a one-story, front-gabled log structure consisting of a single room. A board-and-batten door clad with horizontal boards is centered on the west elevation. The building rests on a stacked stone perimeter foundation that extends to a height of approximately two feet above grade and has a stone floor. A drainpipe beneath the floor passes underground and drains to a ditch to the southwest. It must be maintained to keep it clear and prevent the building from flooding. The gable ends are clad with vertical riven board siding. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed entirely of new material in 1967 (**Figures 3-60, 3-114, and 3-115**).



FIGURE 3–59. The Willie Gibbons Blacksmith Shop, northeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–60. The Willie Gibbons Blacksmith Shop, southwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–58. The Willie Gibbons Spring House, southwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–61. The Willie Gibbons Woodshed, east elevation. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–62. The Willie Gibbons Woodshed, northwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Willie Gibbons Woodshed (CRIS# 7065)

The woodshed is a single-story, shed-roofed log and riven board structure consisting of a single room with a doorway and a board-and-batten door on the south side. It rests on six stone piers that support log sill beams and a wood floor. Grade is near the floor level on the east side but steps down steeply, leaving the west side several feet above grade. Vertical riven board siding extends to the eaves on all but the east elevation, which has a central opening near the top. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed entirely of new material in 1968 (**Figures 3-61, 3-62, 3-114, and 3-115**).



FIGURE 3–63. The Willie Gibbons Hen House, northwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–64. The Willie Gibbons Outhouse, northeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Willie Gibbons Hen House (CRIS# 7046)

The hen house is a one-story, front-gabled log and riven board structure originally constructed in 1925. It is a single room. A small access doorway on the north elevation holds a board-and-batten door. It rests on a stacked stone pier foundation with riven board infill walls and has a wood floor. Exterior wood nesting boxes line the north and west elevations. The gable ends are clad with vertical riven board siding. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed entirely of new material in 1967; the nesting boxes are not present in photos from the National Register nomination (**Figures 3-63, 3-114, and 3-115**).

Willie Gibbons Outhouse (CRIS# 7047)

Originally constructed in 1930, the outhouse is a front-gabled board structure with a board-and-batten door on the east side. The structure sits on a stone pier foundation. The exterior is clad with courses of vertical riven boards. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed entirely of new material in 1967 (**Figures 3-64, 3-114, and 3-115**).



FIGURE 3–65. The Willie Gibbons Granary, northeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–66. The Willie Gibbons Granary, northwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Willie Gibbons Granary (CRIS# 7044)

The granary is a front-gabled log structure originally constructed in 1925 with a small opening that has a hinged board-and-batten door on its east elevation. The structure sits on stacked stone piers supporting log sill beams and a log puncheon floor. Floor is near grade level on the east side, but the grade drops steeply at the west end, leaving the west side of the building several feet above grade. Riven boards cover the log chinking and clad the gable ends. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed in 1967, reusing only the large chestnut sill members and some flooring (**Figures 3-65, 3-66, 3-114, and 3-115**).



FIGURE 3–67. The Willie Gibbons Barn, northwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–68. The Willie Gibbons Barn, southeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Willie Gibbons Barn (CRIS# 7043)

The barn is a two-story, front-gabled board structure originally constructed in 1924, consisting of five stalls, two side sheds, and an open loft. The structure sits on a stacked stone pier foundation with stone infill walls and has a dirt floor. The loft above is one open space accessed by an interior ladder. Board-and-batten entry doors are at the ends of the east and west walls, two on the east elevation and one on the southern end of the west elevation. The exterior is clad with riven boards measuring approximately 2 feet 6 inches long and overlapping in stacked horizontal rows. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The barn was partially restored in 1968 using an unknown amount of original material (**Figures 3-67, 3-68, 3-114, and 3-115**).



FIGURE 3–69. The Willie Gibbons Hog House, west elevation. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–70. The Willie Gibbons Hog House northeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Willie Gibbons Hog House (CRIS# 7063)

The hog house is a one-story, two-pen log and riven board structure with a shed roof and three openings on the west side. The two larger openings hold board-and-batten doors. The structure sits on six stacked stone piers that support log sill beams and a wood floor. The log chinking is covered with riven boards. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed entirely of new material in 1967 (**Figures 3-69, 3-70, 3-114, and 3-115**).



FIGURE 3–71. The Willie Gibbons Sheep Barn, southwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–72. The Willie Gibbons Sheep Barn, southeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Willie Gibbons Sheep Barn (CRIS# 7072)

The sheep barn is a two-story, front-gabled log and riven board structure with a doorway on the east elevation holding a board-and-batten door. The upper and lower levels are largely open, with the upper level serving as a hayloft. The structure sits on a stacked stone pier foundation with stone infill and has a dirt floor. The exterior is clad with overlapping horizontal bands of riven boards set vertically. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed entirely of new material in 1973 (**Figures 3-71, 3-72, 3-114, and 3-115**).



FIGURE 3–73. Remaining foundation and chimney of the Willie Gibbons House (ruin), southwest oblique. Note remaining log sill at left of ruins. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–74. Remaining foundations of the Willie Gibbons House (right) and Smokehouse (left) viewed from southwest. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Willie Gibbons House (ruin) (CRIS# 7042)

The ruins of the Willie Gibbons House lie between the woodshed to the north and the hen house to the south. They consist only of a stacked stone perimeter foundation on the west end and stone piers on the east. Most of the stone chimney remains, with only the top three to four courses missing, and it has fireboxes on both the north and south sides. A single log remains at the southeast corner. The house was reconstructed of 50 percent new material in 1968 and was destroyed in a fire started accidentally by a visitor in 2000 (**Figures 3-73, 3-114, and 3-115**).

Willie Gibbons Smokehouse (ruin) (CRIS# 7045)

The smokehouse site is just south of the Willie Gibbons House (ruin). Stacked stone corner piers and a stone outcropping remain to outline the building footprint. The structure was originally constructed in 1925, was reconstructed entirely of new material in 1968, and burned with the house in 2000 (**Figures 3-74, 3-114, and 3-115**).



FIGURE 3–75. The Willie Gibbons Apple Hole. Source: Photo by STA staff, September 2017



FIGURE 3–76. Overview of the Lige Gibbons Farmstead looking southeast showing (left to right): house, corn crib, hen house, hog house, and barn. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Willie Gibbons Apple Hole (CRIS# 7062)

The apple hole lies just northeast of the hen house and consists of an approximately 3-foot-by-3-foot square hole lined with vertical riven boards. The depth of the hole measures about 1 foot deep from grade and is lined with straw. A board-and-batten hatch with a wood handle rests on top of the opening. The appearance of the apple hole differs significantly from that shown in the National Register nomination photograph, which shows a thicker hatch and horizontal side walls.

The National Register nomination states that the original hole was 3 feet deep and that the apple hole was reconstructed of 100 percent new material by the CUGA Job Corps in 1968. According to park staff, the apple hole was rebuilt in 1983 and again in 2015.[44] It is likely, however, that the buried wood structure would have been reconstructed every few years (**Figures 3-75, 3-114, and 3-115**).

Lige Gibbons Farmstead

The Lige Gibbons Farmstead is east of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead and consists of six structures including a house, corn crib, hen house, hog house, barn, and outhouse (**Figures 3-76, 3-114, and 3-116**).

44 Jessica McNeil, "Hensley Comments 95% Draft Consolidated Comments," re: page 103, line 1, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, National Park Service, June 21, 2019, 20.



FIGURE 3–77. The Lige Gibbons House, northwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–78. The Lige Gibbons House, southeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Lige Gibbons House (CRIS# 7051)

The Lige Gibbons House is a single-story, side-gabled log structure originally constructed in 1922. It has a west shed addition, a south-facing gable addition, and an east-facing shed-roofed open porch with enclosed storage on the south end. The house sits on a stacked stone pier foundation and has an exterior stone chimney on the north elevation. At the southwest corner, a smaller stone chimney is supported above grade level by a single log. Three entry doors access the interior, two on the porch and one on the west elevation; all doorways except that to the storage area on the east porch hold board-and-batten doors. The doorway to the storage area has no door. Three nine-light fixed wood sash windows provide daylight to the interior, two on the north elevation and one on the south. The interior consists of four rooms: a kitchen, pantry, living and dining room, and bedroom. Interior walls are also of log construction, and notches denote where logs were to be placed during construction. Remnants of newspaper are attached to the walls in areas of the interior. Storage beneath the house is accessed by a floor hatch. Riven boards cover the log chinking on the interior and exterior and clad the gable ends. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The house was reconstructed of 75 percent new material in 1972; it retains some original chestnut boards on the porch floor (**Figures 3-77, 3-78, 3-114, and 3-116**).



FIGURE 3–79. The Lige Gibbons Corn Crib, northeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–80. The Lige Gibbons Corn Crib, west elevation. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Lige Gibbons Corn Crib (CRIS# 7054)

The corn crib is a single-story, front-gabled log structure originally built in 1930 with a doorway holding a board-and-batten door on the north side. The structure rests on stacked stone piers supporting log sill beams and a wood floor. Grade is near the floor level on the north side but steps down steeply across the building length, leaving the south end several feet off the ground. Riven boards cover the log chinking and clad the gable ends. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. At the north end, the roof extends approximately 2 feet, creating an overhang. The structure was reconstructed of entirely new material in 1967 (**Figures 3-79, 3-80, 3-114, and 3-116**).



FIGURE 3–81. The Lige Gibbons Hen House, north elevation. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–82. The Lige Gibbons Hen House (right) and Hog House (left), southeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Lige Gibbons Hen House (CRIS# 7053)

The hen house is a single story, shed-roofed log and riven board structure with two small openings that have hinged board-and-batten doors on the north side. A small, sloped feed chute is near the openings. Four stacked stone piers support log sill beams and a wood floor. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed in 1967 of 60 percent new material (**Figures 3-81, 3-82, 3-114, and 3-116**).



FIGURE 3–83. The Lige Gibbons Hog House, north elevation. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–84. The Lige Gibbons Hog House (left) and Hen House (right), southwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Lige Gibbons Hog House (CRIS# 7064)

The hog house is a single-story, shed-roofed log and riven board structure with two small openings that have board-and-batten doors on the north side. A small, sloped feed chute is near the openings. The structure sits on four stacked stone piers that support log sill beams and a wood floor. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed of entirely new material in 1967 (**Figures 3-83, 3-84, 3-114, and 3-116**).



FIGURE 3–85. The Lige Gibbons Outhouse, northeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–86. The Lige Gibbons Outhouse, southeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Lige Gibbons Outhouse (CRIS# 7055)

The outhouse is a shed-roofed frame structure clad with vertical riven boards. An east-facing doorway holds a board-and-batten door clad with horizontal riven boards. Four stacked stone piers support log sill beams and a plank board floor. The exterior is clad with overlapping horizontal bands of riven boards set vertically and measuring approximately 2 feet 6 inches tall. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed entirely of new material in 1967 (**Figures 3-85, 3-86, 3-114, and 3-116**).



FIGURE 3–87. The Lige Gibbons Barn, northeast oblique. Note ladder accessing loft doorway. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–88. The Lige Gibbons Barn, southwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Lige Gibbons Barn (CRIS# 7052)

The barn is a two-story, front-gabled frame structure clad with vertical riven boards originally constructed in 1930. The structure sits on a stacked stone pier foundation with stone infill walls and has a dirt floor. The loft above is one open space. Hinged board-and-batten doors access the interior from the north and east elevations. A single board-and-batten loft door on the east elevation is accessed by a ladder. The exterior is clad with overlapping horizontal bands of vertical riven boards measuring approximately 2 feet 6 inches tall. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed entirely of new material in 1967 (**Figures 3-87, 3-88, 3-114, and 3-116**).



FIGURE 3–89. The Finley Hensley House, east elevation. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–90. The Finley Hensley House, northwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Finley Hensley Farmstead

Finley Hensley House (CRIS# 7068)

The Finley Hensley Farmstead is east of the Lige Gibbons Farmstead and consists of a house and barn. The house is a single-story, side-gabled log structure with an open porch on the east elevation and a shed addition and smaller open porch on the west elevation. The house sits on a stacked stone pier foundation with a mixture of stone and riven board infill. An exterior stone chimney is centered on the north gable end. Horizontal riven boards cover the log chinking and clad the gable ends. Three doorways enter the house, two from the east porch and one from the west; each holds a board-and-batten door. Single window openings on the south and west elevations have hinged board-and-batten shutters. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. A photograph from 1974 shows the house in poor condition with no roof structure; the house was reconstructed in 1982. It is unknown what percentage of the original house remains (**Figures 3-89, 3-90, 3-114, and 3-117**).



FIGURE 3–91. The Finley Hensley Barn, northeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–92. The Finley Hensley Barn, southwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Finley Hensley Barn (CRIS# 7061)

The barn is a one-and-a-half story, front-gabled log structure. It sits on a stacked stone pier foundation with stone infill walls and has a dirt floor. The loft above is one open space. Board-and-batten doors on the north and south elevations access the main level. A single loft doorway holding a board-and-batten door on the east elevation is accessed by an exterior ladder. Riven boards cover the log chinking and form vertical cladding on the gable ends. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed in the 1970s using an unknown amount of original material. The building underwent treatment again in 1996, but the 1997 update to the National Register nomination deemed the barn noncontributing due to the loss of integrity, stating that approximately 90 percent of the original material had been lost (**Figures 3-91, 3-92, 3-114, and 3-117**).

Bert Hensley Farmstead

The Bert Hensley Farmstead is northeast of the Finley Hensley Farmstead and west of the maintenance complex. It consists of four structures including a house, smokehouse, hen house, and hog house (**Figures 3-93 through 3-102, 3-114, and 3-118**).



FIGURE 3–93. Overview of the Bert Hensley Farmstead, looking east showing (left to right): house, smokehouse, hen house. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–94. The Bert Hensley House, northwest oblique. Note basement entrance at right. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Bert Hensley House (CRIS# 92491)

The Bert Hensley House is an L-shaped, single-story, gable-roofed log structure with legs extending to the north and west. An open porch is at the intersection of the two legs, supported by wood and stacked stone piers. The main portion of the house sits on a mortared stone perimeter foundation and has a basement accessed via a gable-roofed covering on the west elevation. Much of the exterior has exposed chinking, but the south elevation and portions of the west elevation are clad with horizontal bands of riven boards set vertically. Two doorways access the main level, one on the east elevation and one from the open porch on the west elevation. Six-over-six-light double-sash wood windows are typical. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. An interior stone chimney extends through the roof near the intersection of the two legs of the plan. The house was reconstructed in 1969 and later modernized further for use as housing for park staff. Due to extensive modifications, the house was deemed noncontributing by the 1997 update to the National Register nomination (**Figures 3-93 through 3-96, 3-114, and 3-118**).



FIGURE 3–95. The Bert Hensley House, southwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–96. The Bert Hensley House, east elevation. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–97. The Bert Hensley Smokehouse, southwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–98. The Bert Hensley Smokehouse, northeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Bert Hensley Smokehouse (CRIS# 7071)

The smokehouse is a single-story, front-gabled log structure with an opening on the west elevation holding a board-and-batten door. The structure rests on a stacked stone pier foundation with stone infill walls and a dirt floor. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The roof extends on the west end to form a 1-foot-4-inch-wide overhang. The structure was reconstructed in 1969 using 100 percent new material (**Figures 3-97, 3-98, 3-114, and 3-118**).



FIGURE 3–99. The Bert Hensley Hen House, southeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–100. The Bert Hensley Hen House, northeast oblique. A 1983 photo shows nesting boxes in the same location. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Bert Hensley Hen House (CRIS# 7076)

The hen house is a single-story, front-gabled log structure with an opening on the west elevation. The structure rests on a stacked stone pier foundation with stone infill walls and a dirt floor. A row of nesting boxes is mounted to the north side, just below the eave line. According to park staff, a photo taken in 1983 shows nesting boxes on both sides. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The roof extends on the west end to form a 1-foot-4-inch-wide overhang. The structure was reconstructed in 1969 using an unknown amount of original material (**Figures 3-99, 3-100, 3-114, and 3-118**).



FIGURE 3–101. The Bert Hensley Hog House, southwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–102. The Bert Hensley Hog House, southeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Bert Hensley Hog House (CRIS# 7077)

The hog house lies south of the other buildings of the complex in an adjacent field. It is a single-story, shed-roofed log and riven board structure with six openings on the east side, two near grade level and four below the roofline. A sloped feed chute is on the western end of the south elevation. The structure sits on stacked stone piers that support log sill beams and a wood floor. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The structure was reconstructed in 1969 using an unknown amount of original material (**Figures 3-101, 3-102, 3-114, and 3-118**).



FIGURE 3–103. The Park Hensley House, southeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–104. The Park Hensley House, southwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Park Hensley House (CRIS# 925)

The Park Hensley House is a single-story, side-gabled log structure with an open shed-roofed porch on the east elevation and a small shed-roofed landing with exterior stair on the west elevation. The house sits on a mortared stone perimeter foundation and has a full-footprint walk-out basement accessed by a doorway at the southern end of the west elevation. An exterior stone chimney is off-center on the south elevation. Log chinking is covered with horizontal boards, but the south wall and north gable end are clad with horizontal bands of riven boards set vertically. Three doorways lead to the main level, two on the east porch and one on the rear, accessed via wood stairs from grade level. All doorways hold board-and-batten doors. Six-over-six-light double-sash wood windows are typical and are covered with hinged board-and-batten shutters. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The house was reconstructed in 1969 and later modernized further for use as housing for park staff. Due to extensive modifications, including construction of the basement and modernization of the interior, the house was deemed noncontributing by the 1997 update to the National Register nomination (**Figures 3-103, 3-104, 3-114, and 3-119**).



FIGURE 3–105. The Liege Hensley House, northeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–106. The Liege Hensley House, southwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Liege Hensley House (CRIS# 7050)

The Liege Hensley House is a single-story, side-gabled log structure with a shed-roofed open porch on the east elevation and a shed-roofed addition on the west elevation. The house sits on stacked stone piers that support log sill beams and a board floor. A stone chimney is centered on the north gable end. Riven boards cover the log chinking and clad the gable ends. Three doorways holding board-and-batten doors access the interior, two on the east porch and one on the south side of the rear shed addition. The house has three windows covered with board-and-batten shutters. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The house was reconstructed in 1979 using an unknown amount of original material (**Figures 3-105, 3-106, 3-114, and 3-120**).



FIGURE 3–107. The School House, northeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–108. The School House, southwest oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

Brush Mountain School House (CRIS# 7049)

The Brush Mountain School House is a one-story, front-gabled log structure with a shed-roofed porch on the east side. The structure sits on a stacked stone pier foundation that supports log sill beams and a puncheon floor. A doorway is centered on the east elevation, and the north and south walls each have two six-over-six-light wood double-sash windows. Horizontal riven boards cover the wall chinking and clad the gable ends. The interior consists of a single room with a stove in the center that vents to a red-brick chimney. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. The first iteration of the school house was built in 1912, the second in 1928, the third sometime between 1940 and 1952, and the fourth and current iteration in 1972. The current school house matches the location of the 1928 iteration. According to park staff, a 1947 photo shows the school house with no porch, the chimney in a different location, and a galvanized tin roof (which was removed before 1955). The structure was reconstructed of 40 percent new material in 1972 (**Figures 3-107, 3-108, 3-114, and 3-117**).

School Outhouses (CRIS# West: 7073, East: 7074)

Two identical outhouses served the school. Both are side-gabled riven board structures resting on stacked stone pier foundations. Vertical riven board siding is consistent on both outhouses. A single



FIGURE 3–109. The School Outhouse, northeast oblique. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–110. The Wallace Hensley House (ruin). Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017

board-and-batten door on the long side of both structures accesses the interior. The wood shingle roof consists of split shakes about 3 feet long and 6 inches wide with a 2-foot exposure. Each row has double shingles. Both outhouses were reconstructed of entirely new material in 1972 (**Figures 3-109, 3-114, and 3-117**).

Wallace Hensley Farmstead (ruin) (CRIS# 7059)

The Wallace Hensley Farmstead (ruin) is southeast of the Park Hensley House and northeast of the Liege Hensley House. A pile of stones from the house foundation and chimney is all that remains on the site (**Figures 3-110, 3-114, and 3-120**).

Sherman Hensley Farmstead (ruin) (CRIS# House: 7056, Corn Crib: 7057, Hen House: 7058)

Partial stone foundations and portions of log walls remain at the locations of several buildings at the Sherman Hensley Farmstead site. The only ruin that could be definitively identified is that of the house, which retains a loosely defined border of foundation stone and is of a larger size. Evidence remains for a total of four more-or-less equally sized smaller structures north and south of the house, but insufficient material remains to identify their uses. The two most intact ruins, likely the corn crib and hen house identified in the National Register nomination, have three to four partial courses of logs remaining. The other two ruins are nearly indiscernible from the forest floor (**Figures 3-111 through 3-113, 3-114, and 3-120**).



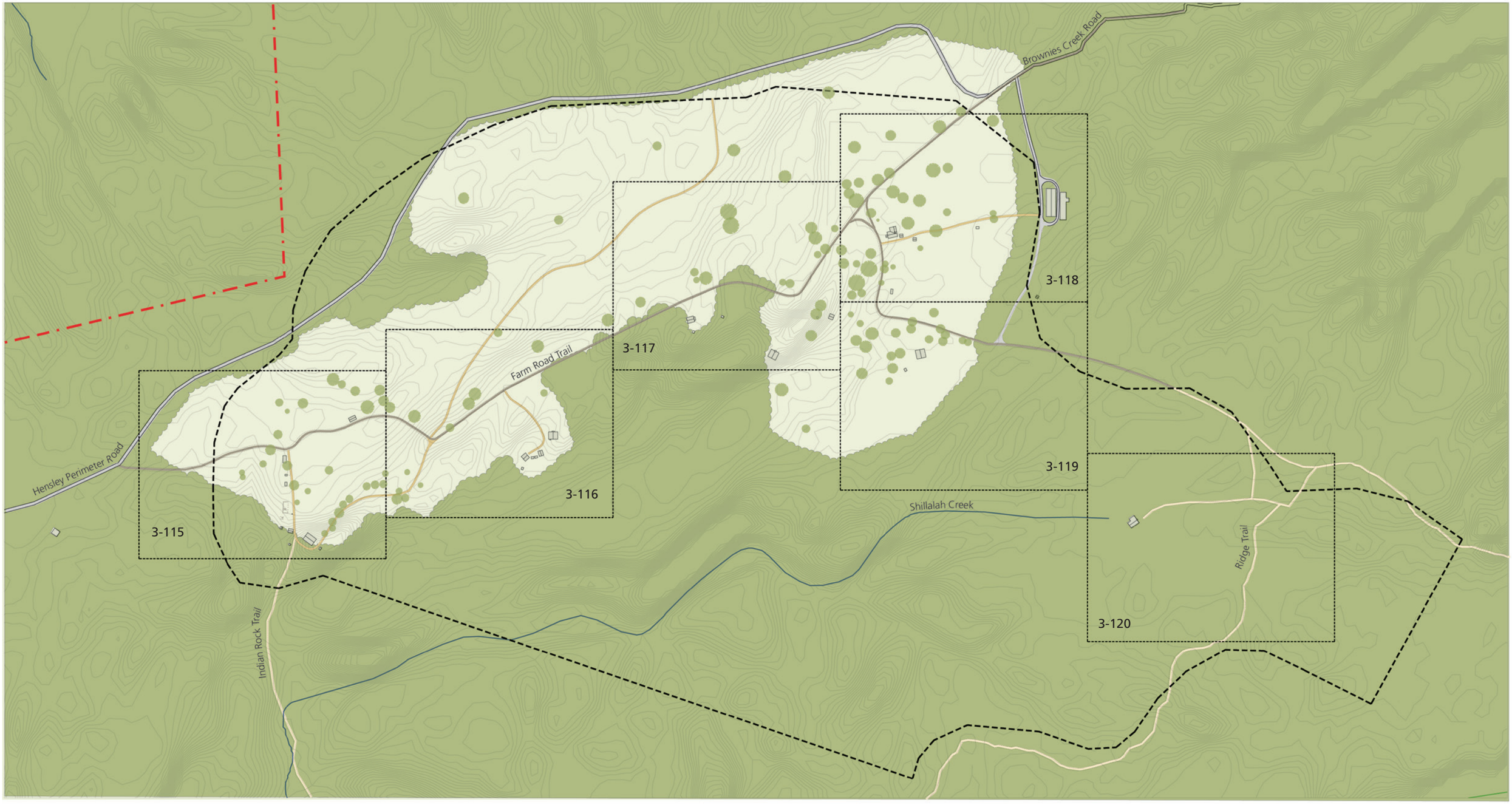
FIGURE 3–111. The Sherman Hensley House (ruin). Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–112. Unidentified ruin near house site. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



FIGURE 3–113. Unidentified ruin near house site. Source: Photo by Jeffrey Anderson, JKOA, September 2017



Cultural Landscape Report
Hensley Settlement Existing Conditions

Cumberland Gap National
Historical Park
Bell County, KY

Sources

1. Aerial Photography, Google Earth, 2018
2. Boundaries, National Park Service 2018.
3. Hensley Settlement Farm Management map: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap, LandFX CAD and Illustrator, 2020.

Legend

- CUGA Boundary
- Hensley Settlement Historic District
- Buildings
- Gravel Road
- Grassed Road (Major circulation)
- Grassed Path (Minor circulation)
- Trail
- 10ft Contours
- Woods
- Trees
- Pasture

0 300' 600' N

FIGURE 3–114. Existing Conditions, Key Map. Source: STA

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Cultural Landscape Report
Hensley Settlement

Cumberland Gap National
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Bell County, KY

Willie Gibbons Farmstead
Hensley Settlement
Existing Conditons 2019

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Sources

1. Aerial Photography, Google Earth, 2018.
2. Boundaries, National Park Service 2018.
3. Hensley Settlement Farm Management map: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586.
4. STA site visit, October 2019.

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap, LandFX CAD and Illustrator, 2019.

FIGURE 3–115. Existing Conditions, Willie Gibbons Farmstead. Source: STA

Hensley Perimeter Road
Farm Road Trail
Land Bridge
Sheep Barn
Blacksmith Shop
Spring House
Woodshed
Willie Gibbons House (ruins)
Smokehouse (ruins)
Apple Hole
Hen House
Granary
Outhouse
Willie Gibbons Barn
Hog House

Legend

- Hensley Settlement Historic District
- Buildings
- Gravel Road
- Grassed Road (Major Circulation)
- Grassed Path (Minor Circulation)
- Trail
- Fences
- Stone Wall
- 10ft Contours
- Woods
- Trees
- Apple Trees
- Foundation Planting (yucca)
- Pasture
- Gate



0 60' 120' N

Cultural Landscape Report
Hensley Settlement

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park
Bell County, KY

Lige Gibbons and Grant Hensley Farmsteads
Hensley Settlement
Existing Conditons 2019

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Sources

1. Aerial Photography, Google Earth, 2018.
2. Boundaries, National Park Service 2018.
3. Hensley Settlement Farm Management map: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586.
4. STA site visit, October 2019.

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap, LandFX CAD and Illustrator, 2019.

FIGURE 3–116. Existing Conditions, Lige Gibbons and Grant Hensley Farmsteads. Source: STA

Farm Road Trail

Grant Hensley Farmstead (ruins and foundational plantings)

Lige Gibbons House
Corn Crib
Hen House
Hog Pen
Lige Gibbons Barn
Outhouse

Legend

- Buildings
- Grassed Road (Major Circulation)
- Grassed Path (Minor Circulation)
- Fences
- 10ft Contours
- Woods
- Trees
- Apple Trees
- Foundation Planting (yucca)
- Pasture
- Gate



0 60' 120' N



Cultural Landscape Report
Hensley Settlement

Cumberland Gap National
Historical Park
Bell County, KY

Brush Mountain School House, Hensley Graveyard and Finley Hensley Farmstead
Hensley Settlement
Existing Conditons 2019

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Sources

1. Aerial Photography, Google Earth, 2018.
2. Boundaries, National Park Service 2018.
3. Hensley Settlement Farm Management map: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586.
4. STA site visit, October 2019.

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap, LandFX CAD and Illustrator, 2019.

FIGURE 3–117. Existing Conditions, Brush Mountain School House, Hensley Cemetery, and Finley Hensley Farmstead. Source: STA

Legend

- Buildings
- Grassed Road (Major Circulation)
- Grassed Path (Minor Circulation)
- Fences
- 10ft Contours
- Woods
- Trees
- Apple Trees
- Foundation Planting (iris)
- Pasture
- Gate



0 60' 120' N

Cultural Landscape Report
Hensley Settlement

Cumberland Gap National
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Bell County, KY

Bert Hensley Farmstead
Hensley Settlement
Existing Conditons 2019

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Sources

1. Aerial Photography, Google Earth, 2018.
2. Boundaries, National Park Service 2018.
3. Hensley Settlement Farm Management map: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586.
4. STA site visit, October 2019.

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap, LandFX CAD and Illustrator, 2019.

FIGURE 3–118. Existing Conditions, Bert Hensley Farmstead. Source: STA

Farm Road Trail
Brush Pile
Spigot
Hog Pen
Hensley Bunkhouse
& Maintenance Shop
Equipment Shed
Bert Hensley House
Trash Bin
Smokehouse
Recycling
Chicken House
Spigot
Fire Hose Box
Hog House
Hensley Radio
Repeater Building

Legend

- Hensley Settlement Historic District
- Buildings
- Gravel Road
- Grassed Road (Major Circulation)
- Grassed Path (Minor Circulation)
- Fences
- 10ft Contours
- Woods
- Trees
- Apple Trees
- Foundation Planting (iris)
- Pasture
- Gate



0 60' 120' N

Farm Road Trail

Recycling
Trash Bin
Sign
Sign

Picnic Table
Park Hensley House
Outdoor Cooking
Demonstration Area

Picnic Table
Valve
Spigot

Cultural Landscape Report
Hensley Settlement

Cumberland Gap National
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Bell County, KY

Park Hensley Farmstead
Hensley Settlement
Existing Conditons 2019

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Sources

1. Aerial Photography, Google Earth, 2018.
2. Boundaries, National Park Service 2018.
3. Hensley Settlement Farm Management map: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586.
4. STA site visit, October 2019.

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap, LandFX CAD and Illustrator, 2019.

FIGURE 3–119. Existing Conditions, Park Hensley Farmstead. Source: STA

Legend

- Hensley Settlement Historic District
- Buildings
- Gravel Road
- Grassed Road (Major Circulation)
- Grassed Path (Minor Circulation)
- Fences
- 10ft Contours
- Woods
- Trees
- Apple Trees
- Pasture
- Gate

0 60' 120' N



Cultural Landscape Report
Hensley Settlement

Cumberland Gap National
Historical Park
Bell County, KY

Liege Hensley, Wallace Hensley, and Sherman Hensley Farmsteads
Hensley Settlement
Existing Conditons 2019

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Sources

1. Aerial Photography, Google Earth, 2018.
2. Boundaries, National Park Service 2018.
3. Hensley Settlement Farm Management map: CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586.
4. STA site visit, October 2019.

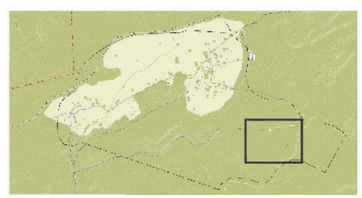
Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap, LandFX CAD and Illustrator, 2019.

FIGURE 3–120. Existing Conditions, Liege Hensley, Wallace Hensley, and Sherman Hensley Farmsteads. Source: STA

Legend

- Hensley Settlement Historic District
- Buildings
- Trail
- Fences
- 10ft Contours
- Woods
- Trees
- Apple Trees
- Pasture



0 60' 120' N

REPEAT PHOTOGRAPHY AND COMPARATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY, AND PHOTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Repeat photography is an analytical tool used to compare historic photographs with photographs taken from the identical location at the current time. Repeat photography is used as a method of assessing the integrity of a landscape compared to specific points in the past. The main problem with this process is that sometimes there is a lack of photographs from a period that is considered the high point or apex of a landscape.

Photography had become common practice by the time Hensley Settlement was established, but there are surprisingly few photographs that show the landscape when it was at its peak habitation in the 1920s and 1930s. Almost all of the available photographs from the Hensley Settlement period of occupancy are group photos of family members. There are many references to the frequency of visitors at Hensley Settlement during this period. Hopefully more photographs will appear that show the Settlement during its period of significance as defined by the 1979 National Register nomination.

Many of the available historic images used for this exercise were taken by CUGA after they obtained title to the various Hensley and Gibbons properties, and so the images postdate the period of significance. Many are centered on architectural elements, but the surrounding landscape in the periphery of the photographs provides some contextual clues. Once the families left and Hensley Settlement went into decline, many of the landscapes were not well maintained during the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s, and this is evident in the following images. Nevertheless, these are the images that are available, and they are the best way STA has of assessing changes, since they were taken by park interpretive staff and other employees.

Most of the following images are from park service archives. The researchers reviewed them at park archives and chose the images that best represented the landscape during the period they were taken. Park staff then scanned them and forwarded them to the researchers for analysis and inclusion in the report.



FIGURE 3–121. Photo from 1950 article on Sherman Hensley as the last resident of Hensley Settlement. The Finley Hensley Farmstead is visible in background, as are multiple buildings and fences at center. Source: Photo by Thomas V. Miller, Jr., *The Courier-Journal*, Louisville, KY., September 17,1950. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586



FIGURE 3–122. Here, the vegetation has matured, buildings are missing, and the fence lines are different. The Finley Hensley Barn is visible in the background. Source: Photo by STA staff, July 2018

Figure 3-121 was taken for a 1950 article that described Sherman Hensley's habitation on the site at the end of the family tenure. NPS employees examined this image, and they believe the location to be the Finley Hensley Farmstead, with the barn at the center of the photograph. The NPS employees helped STA staff determine the best location to match the historic photograph based on the topography within the Hensley Settlement boundaries (**Figure 3-122**). In addition to the Finley Hensley Barn, three structures are visible in the photograph—one small structure is left of center, one is right of center, and one is on a hill at the top right of center (**Figure 3-121**). An examination of the fence lines reveal that one fence line location is similar to that in historic conditions, while others visible in the distance are currently nonexistent (**Figures 3-121** and **3-122**). The location of the fence that begins in the bottom left of the photograph is similar to the location of the existing fence (**Figures 3-121** and **3-122**). The fence in the bottom center and bottom right of the photograph is no longer extant (**Figures 3-121** and **3-122**). Others are visible in **Figure 3-121** left of center and top of center and accentuate the hill slopes and topography. The changes in the landscape vegetation are clear both in the foreground and in the distance. It is possible that trees were planted during the CUGA Job Corps tenure and have matured. The background of the photo shows a shift from open field to forest. As the canopy was allowed and encouraged to regenerate



FIGURE 3–123. 1967 view of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead. Source: Image 510-002. Classification No. 510. Negative No. 1,371. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586



FIGURE 3–124. The Willie Gibbons Farmstead with paling fence in foreground, house (ruin) in center and barn in background. Source: Photo by STA staff, July 2018

during later periods, the views into the skyline at the hilltops are no longer visible.

Figure 3-123 shows a view looking toward the Willie Gibbons Farmstead from the fenced garden (before restoration in 1967). Visible in the foreground is the Willie Gibbons House; the granary is on the right; and the barn is visible in the background. **Figure 3-124** is a view of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead with associated buildings. The buildings have been repaired, and the landscape has been cleared of brush. Visible in the foreground is the paling fence that once enclosed a garden. In the center of the photo from the left is the woodshed, the ruins of the Willie Gibbons House (destroyed by a fire), the apple hole, and the hen house; the granary is located just behind the hen house, and the barn is in the background. The smokehouse ruins are not visible. The buildings, paling fences, and other associated structures have not yet been repaired, and the landscape comprises new scrub growth and an extensive tree line in the distance **(Figure 3-124).** The barn, outbuildings, and paling fence are well maintained.



FIGURE 3–125. Willie Gibbons Farmstead with barn in the background. The spring house is center left. Source: Photo by Wm. E. Cox, Chief of Interpretation, Summer 1975. Image 510-003. Classification No. 510. Negative No. 1,739. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586



FIGURE 3–126. The Willie Gibbons Farmstead with spring house visible in center left; tree has matured in foreground and is blocking view of barn. Source: Photo by STA staff, July 2018

Figure 3-125 overlooks the Willie Gibbons Farmstead from Farm Road Trail. Visible in the photo is the worm fence bordering Farm Road Trail, and on the far left are the spring house, the woodshed, and the Willie Gibbons House, with the barn in the background. The view in **Figure 3-126** is largely obscured by mature trees, but the spring house (foreground) and the barn (background) are still visible. It is not clear whether the large tree in the foreground is the tree shown in front of the smokehouse in 1975. The condition of the unmown fields in the foreground in both 1975 and 2018 is similar, and it demonstrates that the land was still being maintained after the CUGA Job Corps program was dismantled.



FIGURE 3–127. Construction on the Willie Gibbons Blacksmith Shop, 1968. Source: No attribution. Image 510-008. Classification No. 510. Negative No. 1,546. Undated. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586

Figure 3-127 shows the reconstruction of the Willie Gibbons Blacksmith Shop, with the approximate date of 1968. Building materials surround the immediate structure site, with a rock wall visible on the other side of the road and an unidentified small tree or shrub appearing in the foreground. It is doubtful that the small tree or shrub would be an apple tree considering the time of year and presence of leaves. The photo is undated but appears to have been taken during winter or early spring due to the lack of leaf canopy. There are quite a few trees lining Farm Road Trail leading up to Shillalah Creek Road. There is no accompanying comparative photograph with this image.



FIGURE 3–128. Paling fence at the Willie Gibbons Orchard. Source: Photo by Lloyd Abelson, Park Historian, ca. 1966. Image 510-015. Classification No 510. Negative No. 1,963. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586



FIGURE 3–129. The paling fence in the foreground retains a similar rustic appearance. The fence in the foreground likely postdates the Job Corps era and is a later replacement. Source: Photo by STA staff, July 2018

Figure 3-128 was labeled by NPS staff as an orchard scene, and some apple trees are visible just beyond the paling fence near the Willie Gibbons House. The paling fence is new and was completed during the CUGA Job Corps era. Some construction material is visible in the center right of the photo. On the left side of the photo, on top of the hill, there also appears to be a stack of construction material. The dirt or gravel path leading through the farmstead is visible in the center of the photo, as are the house and granary; the barn is visible in the background. Just beyond the second fence post in the foreground, the old smokehouse roof is visible. The barn has not yet been restored in this photo (restoration was completed in 1968 by the CUGA Job Corps). According to park staff, the house has a tarp covering the hole in the roof where the chimney would have been. The house was completely taken down and rebuilt in 1967, including the chimney, which was unstable in 1964.

Figure 3-129 shows the woodshed on the left; the house ruins, apple hole, and hen house in the center; and the granary, gate, and barn in the background. The paling fence in the foreground of the current photo retains a rustic appearance similar to the one in the 1966 photograph.

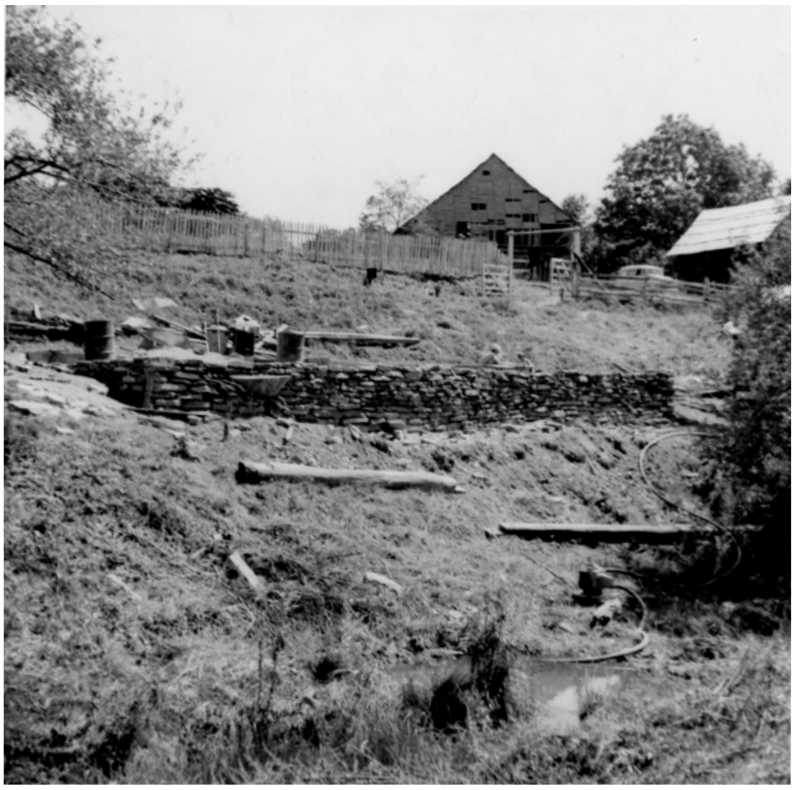


FIGURE 3–130. The Willie Gibbons Barn and Willie Gibbons House foundation in foreground during CUGA Job Corps restoration. Source: Photo by Lloyd Abelson, Park Historian. August, 1967. Image 510-030. Classification No. 510. Negative 1,893. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586



FIGURE 3–131. The Willie Gibbons House foundation in foreground. Source: Photo by STA staff, July 2018

Figure 3-130 looks toward the Willie Gibbons Farmstead from the valley that runs between the garden and the straight line of outbuildings; the image was taken during reconstruction work on the Willie Gibbons House in 1967. The entire structure has been removed, and workers can be seen completing the house foundation in the center of the photo. In the background, a vehicle can be seen parked in front of the granary. **Figure 3-131** shows the Willie Gibbons House (ruin). Due to a fire, the structure of the house is not visible in the current photo. The stone foundation is remarkably similar in both photos, indicating that the foundation was most likely repaired instead of replaced during the CUGA Job Corps era. The freestanding chimney in the current photo is visible against the barn in the background, and the granary is to the right of the chimney.



FIGURE 3–132. Gate at the Willie Gibbons Farmstead. Source: Photo by Lloyd Abelson, Park Historian, September 1967. Image 510-034. Classification No 510. Negative No. 1,965. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586



FIGURE 3–133. Gate at the Willie Gibbons Farmstead. Source: Photo by STA staff, July 2018

Figure 3-132 illustrates heavy use of the road entering the Willie Gibbons Farmstead in 1967 when the CUGA Job Corps was active on-site. The land has been mostly cleared except for a few trees in the background, and a sign reads, "Hensley Settlement Area Off Limits to All Camping." **Figure 3-133** shows that the gate and picket fences retain their rustic appearance, grass has grown over the road, and trees have matured and grown in. The sign has been removed, but the gate and paling fence retain a rustic appearance.

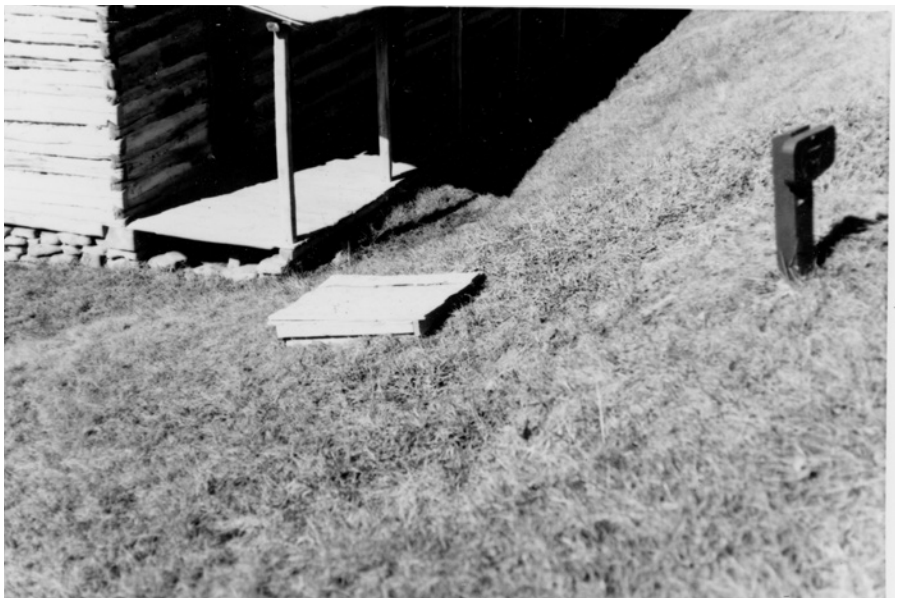


FIGURE 3–134. The Willie Gibbons Apple Hole. Source: Photo by Charles Anibal, Park Historian, November 1974. Image 510-155, Classification No. 510-H22. Negative No. 2,117. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586



FIGURE 3–135. Apple Hole at the Willie Gibbons Homestead. Source: Photo by STA staff, July 2018

Figure 3-134 shows the Willie Gibbons Apple Hole in front of the Willie Gibbons House in 1974. The porch and a small interpretive sign are also visible in the photograph. **Figure 3-135** shows that the apple hole is still intact, but only the stone foundation and chimney remain from the Gibbons House. The apple hole in the recent photo looks further away from the house than in the 1974 photo. This may be a trick of perspective, however, as it was rebuilt twice (in 1983 and 2015), and the current location may be slightly different from the original.



FIGURE 3–136. Construction on the Willie Gibbons Blacksmith Shop. Source: No attribution. No Date. Image 510-173. Classification No 510-H-26. Negative No. 1,628. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586



FIGURE 3–137. The Willie Gibbons Blacksmith Shop. Source: Photo by STA staff, July 2018

Figure 3-136 shows the blacksmith shop being deconstructed and then completely reconstructed. Worm fencing is visible in the background, and the top of a stone retaining wall is visible in the foreground. **Figure 3-137** shows the reconstructed blacksmith shop with fencing running up the hillside in the background. A new fence gate is visible in the background of the current photo, and the low stone wall is barely visible in the foreground.



FIGURE 3–138. Brush Mountain School House with wood paling fence of Hensley Cemetery in foreground. Source: Photo by Wm. E. Cox, September 1976. Image 511-007. Classification No. 511-H08. Negative No. 2,991. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586



FIGURE 3–139. Brush Mountain School House with paling fence around cemetery in foreground. Source: Photo by STA staff, July 2018

Figure 3-138 shows the Brush Mountain School House set back against the tree line with a paling fence in the foreground, and **Figure 3-139** shows a similar scene. It appears that the fence line might have been moved farther away, as the school house appears to be more distant than in the 1976 photo above. A mature tree is in the center right of the photo along the fence line.

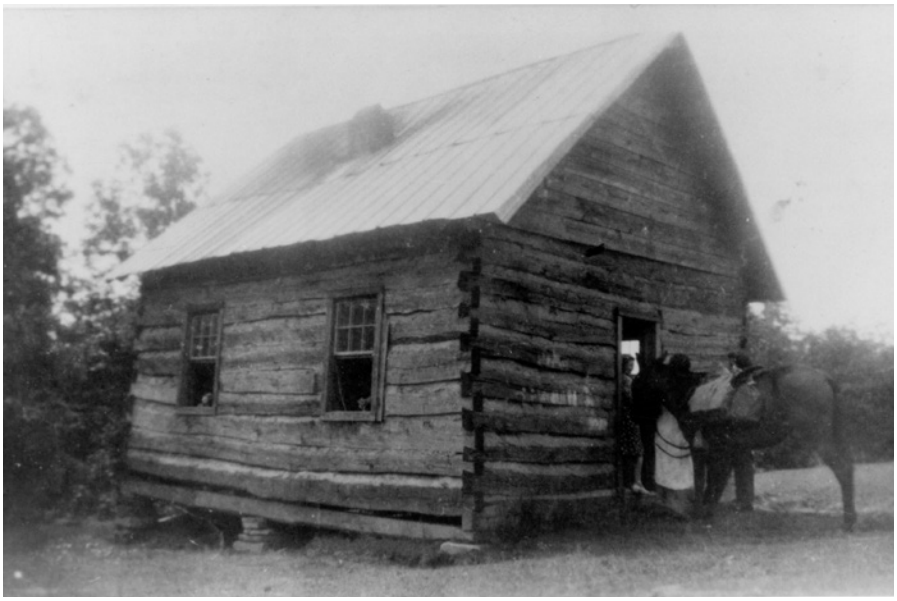


FIGURE 3–140. Second School House. Source: Obtained from Dorothy Muncey, 1947. Image 511-011. Classification No. 511-H08. Negative No. 1,323. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586



FIGURE 3–141. Current School House. Source: Photo by STA staff, July 2018

Figure 3-140 is a 1947 view of the Brush Mountain School House with a tin roof, set against the tree line with children and a horse in front. The building has a flat front and is built on stone piers. This photo shows the third iteration of the school house. **Figure 3-141** shows the fourth iteration of the school house, which includes a porch. The chimney appears to be in a different place in each photo. In the 1947 photo, the roof is made of tin, whereas the current structure is shingled. In the background of the 2018 photo, a fencerow is visible, and the tree line is much closer than in the 1947 photo.



FIGURE 3–142. Cemetery with 67 gravestones. Source: Photo by Jack Boucher, May 1959. Image 519-004. Classification No. 519-H-36. Negative No. 1,333. CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5586



FIGURE 3–143. Cemetery with paling fence. Source: Photo by STA staff, July 2018

Figure 3-142 shows a view looking into Hensley Cemetery in 1959. The original photo is titled "Cemetery—67 gravestones," but it is unknown if this includes footstones as well. Grass and brush have overgrown many of the headstones. Vegetation behind the cemetery is full, and a post and wire fence encloses the space. **Figure 3-143** shows that the cemetery is well maintained, with the grass closely mown, and brush has been cleared from the perimeter. This image shows the paling fence around the perimeter, implying that the paling fence was added later.

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Chapter 4

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

The purpose of this chapter is to synthesize the information in the history section with the existing conditions documentation of Hensley Settlement and then to apply criteria that consider the resources and features through the lens of the National Register nomination form and addendum previously completed for the Settlement. Based on the analysis and evaluation, the CLR then documents changes in the resources that point to an increase or decrease in their significance and integrity. Finally, this chapter recommends addenda to the National Register nomination form to more accurately reflect the Settlement's importance locally, statewide, and nationally.

The period of significance and a statement of significance are based on the current National Register nomination for the site. An evaluation of historic character and integrity are based on a comparison of the site history, existing conditions, photographic surveys, and mapping exercises. The analysis and evaluation chapter was developed using the National Register Criteria for the Evaluation of Historic Properties as well as the National Park Service's (NPS) *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques*.

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE DISCUSSION

Hensley Settlement has evolved throughout its more than one hundred years of existence. Eight periods define the development of Hensley Settlement:

1. The precontact period, which is especially defined by the activity of Indigenous people in the area

2. The period from 1750 to 1792, which is defined by European colonization, the French and Indian War, and the settlement of Cumberland Gap

3. The period from 1792 to 1843, which is defined by early settlement and Kentucky statehood

4. The period between 1843 and 1903, which is defined by the Bales' land ownership, including Martins Fork and Shillalah Creek

5. The period from 1903 to 1951, during which Hensley Settlement was first established and evolved

6. The period from 1951 to 1965, during which the NPS Mission 66 program began documenting the people and way of life that had existed at Hensley Settlement via an ambitious oral history project and the beginning of the CUGA Job Corps

7. The period between 1965 to 1979, which began during the Johnson administration with the start of the CUGA Job Corps program, under the management of the NPS. During this period, the CUGA Job Corps program completed work on the Hensley Settlement buildings to develop and implement interpretive farmer demonstrations on the site, which helped preserve this distinctly Appalachian community

8. 1979, when the National Register nomination form was first submitted, in effect formalizing Hensley Settlement as a cultural landscape, to the present.

The period from 1903 to 1951 corresponds to the National Register Period of Significance. It begins with the arrival of the Hensleys and Gibbons and their allied families in 1903 and ends when the last Settlement member leaves to begin a new life off of Brush Mountain on the Virginia side of the mountain.

The significance and integrity of Hensley Settlement as the subsistence farm for the Hensleys and

Gibbons remains intact. The property has always been a remote location and in some ways is more detached and separated from its rural surroundings than it was back at its peak. During the first fifty years of the 1900s, the farmsteads of the original family were also joined in the surrounding community by the Miracles, the Cupps, and other families that chose to live in close proximity to the plateau atop Brush Mountain.

As the Hensley and Gibbons families left the property, aerial photographs show that the other families in the surrounding context were also abandoning the area. When the last settler at Hensley Settlement left in 1951, the cultural landscape fell into a period of disuse, and there was no longer anthropogenic change. Nature began to retake the land for a period of about fourteen years, until the arrival of the CUGA Job Corps; their work began in 1965 and ended in 1969. Mission 66 and the War on Poverty supplied important resources for CUGA during its early development. The CUGA Job Corps was critical in saving Hensley Settlement at a point when it had experienced significant deterioration. After the CUGA Job Corps completed stabilization, restoration, and reconstruction work at the Settlement, the site was opened to visitors. Since that time, the NPS has maintained the property and preserved the structures. Infrastructure improvements have been made as needed and for the support of the interpretive mission of the Settlement and park. Although the landscape character has evolved over time, the structures and their immediate surroundings still portray the lives of the family that built this subsistence farm and lifestyle.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hensley Settlement Historic District was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places on December 6, 1979 and listed on January 8, 1980. The NPS had previously acquired the property from the state of Kentucky in 1955, when it became part of the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park (CUGA), which administers the site. CUGA was established by congressional authority in 1940.

The Hensley Settlement period of significance begins in 1903 with the arrival of Sherman Hensley; his wife, Nicey Anne Hensley; and their children, and it ends with the departure of Sherman Hensley in 1951. The National Register nomination form states the following:

> Hensley Settlement preserves a disappearing culture in American History and reflects the operation of a complete and nearly self-sufficient isolated Southern Appalachian community as it existed in the decades before and after 1900. It is unique not for this reason only, but also as a complex that survived until after World War II and whose elements, though deteriorated, remained present until the late 1960's [*sic*] when restoration began.

The National Register goes on to list the features that make the Settlement a clear representation of Appalachian culture:

1. The architecture, design, and construction of the buildings
2. Its extreme isolation from other communities and services
3. Its communal nature

This statement of significance remains accurate. Although the National Register does not specify which criteria the Settlement satisfies in demonstrating its significance, STA defines these as Criteria A and C. The landscape is

A. "associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history," notably, Appalachian patterns of settlement, and

C. it embodies "the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction."

The National Register nomination form goes on to state that Hensley Settlement "was reminiscent of a way of life common in the late 19th century. The Settlement comprised a group of people who chose to live in an isolated community without attempting

radical social or religious change." Comparing Hensley Settlement to other communities of the 1700s and 1800s would diminish its significance. The isolation of the Settlement created a unified community that maintained "much of the original fabric on the original site," which elevated its significance as a representative example of Appalachian mountain culture.

The 1979 National Register nomination form was amended in 1997 to reclassify three contributing structures as noncontributing. The Park Hensley and Bert Hensley Houses were both deemed inaccurate reconstructions that lacked sufficient integrity to be listed as contributing structures on the National Register. The Finley Hensley Barn had lost approximately 90 percent of its original materials and suffered a loss of integrity that resulted in its reclassification. The Finley Hensley Granary had been razed, so it was changed from a structure to a site but was still classified as contributing. The original nomination listed forty-three contributing structures and sites. With the 1997 amendment, the number was adjusted to forty.[1]

ASSESSMENT OF LANDSCAPE INTEGRITY

The historic integrity of a cultural landscape relates to the ability of the landscape to convey its significance. The National Register defines seven aspects of integrity that address the cohesiveness, setting, and character of a landscape. These aspects are location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Historic integrity is assessed to determine whether the landscape characteristics and associated features as well as the spatial qualities that shaped the landscape during the historic period are present in much the same way that they were historically.[2] The following section is a summary of the historic integrity assessment.

Location

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.

Located on Hensley Flats atop Brush Mountain, the remaining farmsteads of Hensley Settlement retain their original locations. The remoteness reinforces the feeling of isolation that historically characterized Hensley Settlement. Most of the fence lines are not in their original locations. The stone wall on the edge of the Willie Gibbons property is historic and extant. The agricultural fields and pastures that once defined the different family holdings have long been gone and have been replaced with hayfields, which signify a similar agriculture practice. The cemetery is in its original location, and the surrounding fence is very close to what was there after the CUGA Job Corps intervention. Due to the high level of continuity, the property retains integrity of location.

Design

Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.

Although much of the historic vegetation and many of the small-scale features such as fencing have been changed, the overall spatial patterns of the vernacular landscape remain. The work of the CUGA Job Corps in the 1960s saved selected Settlement buildings, and they remain the focal point of this remnant of an isolated Appalachian community. Farm Road Trail continues to be the primary circulation route through the Settlement.

Setting

Setting is the physical environment of a historic property.

The setting of Hensley Settlement is mostly consistent with its historic period. Farm Road Trail bisects the site; it is used as the primary visitor access and is located in proximity to the homesites just as in the historic aerials. This would have been the primary way that families moved between one another's homes and that children went to school. It was the linear spine and center of the Settlement. The crops that were traditionally grown by each family are no longer part of the setting. The apple orchards that remained at the time of abandonment

1 Jennifer D. Brown, "Hensley Settlement," National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form (Middlesboro, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1980, revised 1997).

2 Robert R. Page, Cathy A. Gilbert, and Susan A. Dolan, *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques* (Washington, DC: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, 2004), 71.

are still extant and add integrity to the setting. These were augmented by additional plantings during the CUGA Job Corps work. There are no commercial or suburban developments that intrude into the setting or into the viewshed.

Materials

Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.

When possible, the CUGA Job Corps reused existing materials to restore and reconstruct Hensley Settlement buildings and structures. Most buildings were originally made of chestnut logs, but chestnut was no longer available by the time the Job Corps arrived in the 1960s. John Rehder pointed out in his study of Hensley Settlement that the CUGA Job Corps instead used oak and cedar replacement logs when necessary. Those kinds of wood are also easy to work with and are resistant to rot and insect infestation.[3]

Changes to the materials primarily involve the planting of trees lining the visitor circulation routes through the Settlement. The overhead vegetative layer is somewhat denser than it was in the historic period. The distance between trees, however, allows the sense of openness characterized by the historic landscape. Taken as a whole, the material density from the historic period retains integrity in relation to the period of significance.

Workmanship

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.

At Hensley Settlement, the efforts of the CUGA Job Corps to reconstruct buildings using the same specifications helped retain integrity of workmanship. The individual cabins, outbuildings, rock walls, and fences were characterized by primitive construction methods, and these are still in evidence today. Throughout the years of NPS maintenance, the park has used original methods of material treatment and followed the SOI standards. These methods were shared by family members and historians, so they directly relate to workmanship within the Settlement. One of the most prominent examples of material replication is in the creation of the hand-hewn oak shingles, which are a unique and highly visible element of the buildings and structures.

Feeling

Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. It results from the presence of physical features that taken together convey the historic character of a property.

The experience of remoteness and isolation that characterizes Hensley Settlement begins with the trip up Shillalah Creek Road. There are a few homes at the beginning of the drive up the mountain, but these become increasingly sparse until the visitor is surrounded by woods and deep creek valleys. The arrival at the open plateau reinforces the feeling of separateness from the modern world. Seeing the structural assemblages in the distance enhances the feeling that the visitor has stepped back in time. The primitive cabins, construction methods used for the outbuildings, extant apple trees, and isolated rural setting all combine to reinforce the integrity of feeling at Hensley Settlement.

Association

Association is the direct link between the important historic event or person and a cultural landscape.

In the case of Hensley Settlement, the link connects the Hensley and Gibbons families to the subsistence settlement they created. The physical site and the ranger's interpretive discussion reinforce the association of this landscape with the original settlers and the two primary families represented there—the Hensleys and Gibbonses. The expression of the material culture through their buildings and structures further reflects the association with the families of the Settlement. This association continues to the present, as the family descendants return annually to Hensley Flats for an annual graveside visit.

3 John Rehder, "Hensley, Kentucky: A Twentieth-Century Pioneer Folk Settlement," *Material Cultural* 37, no. 1 (Spring 2005), 128, www.jstor.org/stable/29764262.

DETERMINATION OF INTEGRITY

Taken as a whole, the Hensley Settlement cultural landscape still conveys its historic significance through the remaining existing resources and surrounding landscape. Most resources retain a high level of association, feeling, and materiality. Although some resources have less integrity, the original locations of the homesteads with their associated outbuildings and landholdings create a scene that retains integrity. The original location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association all work together to create the historic integrity and significance of the Settlement.

ANALYSIS OF LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS AND FEATURES

Landscape characteristics and features are the components that make up the overall landscape, and the condition of each feature determines whether the key components of a landscape contribute to this historic character of Hensley Settlement. The nine components are topography and natural systems, spatial organization and cluster arrangement, land use, circulation, vegetation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, small-scale features, and archeological resources. The method that is used to analyze the components is threefold: a brief discussion of historic conditions related to the period of significance (1903–1951), the period following the period of significance up through the present, and an evaluation statement that compares the historic and current conditions to determine whether the component contributes to the historic character of the cultural landscape.

Because the analysis considers the historic condition and the posthistoric condition, part of the analysis is conducted to determine whether the component in its present state is currently a contributing or noncontributing feature.

Topography and Natural Systems

Hensley Settlement is located on the peak of Brush Mountain in the Cumberland mountain range. Flowing roughly east to west, Shillalah Creek is located within the bottom third of the Hensley Settlement Historic District. Martins Fork is situated east of the historic district, and Cubage Creek is located northwest of the historic district. Various springs feed into Shillalah Creek as it runs along the southern portion of the Settlement.

Historic Conditions:

Hensley Flats and the springs and creeks that begin at the edge of the flats are interrelated and were important contributors to the success of the Settlement. The flats provided agricultural land that had less topography, which enabled the use of handheld farm implements, plows, and mowing machines. Steeper areas were used for fruit trees.

The springs and swales near the Finley Hensley and Willie Gibbons Farmsteads, Shillalah Creek, and Martins Fork were hydrologic resources that were used by all family members. The Willie Gibbons spring seldom dried up in the summer when there was less rain, so most members of the Settlement would draw from it in order to provide water for drinking, cooking, and cleaning during warm summer months. The springs and creeks served as organizing elements for the Settlement, as proximity to clean water was essential for survival.

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

The flats, springs, and creeks of the Settlement are little changed from their historic condition. In some cases, they are not as visible as they would have been at the height of the Settlement. Their existence is apparent in many places, and they are an important part of the interpretive tour. The spring house at the Willie Gibbons Farmstead illustrates the direct connection between the location of farmsteads and the location of springs in order to provide a sustainable source of water for the inhabitants.

Evaluation: Contributing

Hensley Flats is the geologic representation of the mountaintop community and provided the land that the family used to conduct agriculture on the top of Brush Mountain. The hydrologic features of springs and creeks provided fresh water to the Settlement families. The flats, springs, and creeks are all contributing resources of the historic Settlement.

Spatial Organization and Cluster Arrangement

Spatial organization is the three-dimensional organization of landscape forms and the visual relationships between them in a landscape. The ground plane, vertical planes, and associated

overhead planes, in total, are comprised of natural systems and topography.

Events and land ownership exchanges have not changed the spatial organization of the site. These events and exchanges include the initial ownership by the Bales families, occupation through leasehold by the Nichols family, purchase and settlement by the Hensley, Gibbons, and allied families between 1903 and 1951, subsequent purchase by the state of Kentucky, and finally, the transfer to the NPS.

Fields of corn and sorghum were primarily located on the upper reaches of the mountain, with homesteads and gardens located along the perimeters, primarily along the central Farm Road Trail and close to springs and creeks. For Hensley Settlement, the historic spatial organization retains integrity for the period of significance and the period that followed. There are four major zones that are part of the spatial cultural landscape: the open land with individual trees and tree groupings, apple orchards, mature forest, and the cluster arrangement of farmsteads, as well as the cemetery and school house.

Open Land with Individual Trees and Tree Groupings

Historic Conditions:

The agricultural fields of Hensley Settlement tended to be the areas north of Farm Road Trail and consisted of corn, millage, pasture for domestic livestock, and other vegetable garden crops. These fields were subdivided by individual ownership based on the original bequests of Burton Hensley Sr., subsequent purchases by descendants directly from him, and purchases between family members. The historic condition would have been one that showed more separation of land units, with various forms of fencing to separate ownership and maintain control.

The fields that were characterized as open land with sparse individual trees and tree groupings were all spatially part of the historic organization of the Settlement. The 1939 aerial shows that only a portion of the five hundred acres had been cleared but that there was still a significant amount of forest canopy surrounding the Settlement and that there were some individual trees within cleared farmland.

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

By the time the CUGA Job Corps arrived in the 1960s, there was quite a bit of land cover that encroached onto Settlement lands. Over the next decade, the NPS cleared underbrush and trees from identified areas in order to support the farm interpretive program and grow crops related to the Settlement. After the interpretive program ended, the open lands were maintained as hayfields, which is their present condition. They are mown on a cyclical basis.

Evaluation: Contributing

The open land, individual trees, and tree groupings are representative of the Settlement during the historic period. They are significant and retain a level of integrity that contributes to the historic character present during the period of significance.

Apple Orchards

The apple orchards at Hensley Settlement are the most significant remaining cultural vegetative feature of the agricultural landscape. Directly connected to the original members of the Settlement, the trees provide a seasonal reminder of an important resource. They used the fruit for sustenance, for pies, and for making canned apple butter. Fresh apples were stored in apple holes—excavated storage holes in the landscape covered with a wooden board to protect stored apples from the elements. This provided fruit throughout the winter when it otherwise would have not been available.

Historic Conditions:

The historic condition of the apple orchards was assessed through the two period plans and their respective aerials that date to 1939 and 1952. Orchards during the historic period were typically surrounded by fencing in order to protect the trees from domestic animals and to prevent consumption of the fall harvest by domestic and wild animals. Orchards, whether irregular or gridded, were located in close proximity to the primary cabin of each farmstead. The mixture of apple varieties was recorded in the oral history collection, which provided an extensive list of cultivars growing in the Settlement at its height. Some of the varieties grown at the Settlement were Black Ben Davis, Winesap, Delicious, Lock Apple, Rays of Green, and Paw Paw Apple. The original trees were obtained from stores

in the surrounding area and from traveling salesmen, specifically Stark Brothers Nurseries, which still operates as a supplier of fruit trees. Preservation of apple fruit was accomplished in several ways—through drying, canning, and in-ground storage in apple holes.

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

When the CUGA Job Corps arrived in the second half of the 1960s, there were still apple trees growing at Hensley Settlement. The NPS recognized the importance of the apple orchards and documented tree varieties through the oral history program. They also implemented a tree-planting program to supplement the existing tree inventory. Existing historic trees were pruned, and new plantings were installed in orchard locations associated with remaining farmsteads. This work has been further enhanced with the reproduction of historic varieties by rooted cuttings but most commonly by scion grafting onto hardy rootstock. The apple orchards have been documented and inventoried on several occasions.

Evaluation: Contributing

Together, the apple tree orchards at Hensley Settlement are one of the most important landscape resources in the Settlement, and they have been documented and catalogued on several occasions. For today's visitor, the apple trees are a direct tie to the original families and their farmsteads. The visitor season ranges from the advent of apple bloom in the spring to the display of mature fruit in the fall. The fruiting season provides constantly evolving interpretive opportunities throughout the year.

Care and maintenance of the apple trees has been an ongoing effort and focus of the NPS. Based on the historic cultivars at Hensley Settlement and the replacement program that has been in place for many years, the apple orchards retain integrity and are contributing resources. A recommendation has been made for the addition of apple orchards to the National Register documentation.

Mature Forest

Historic Conditions:

During the period of significance, an expanded clearing effort resulted in a more open landscape throughout the 1920s. Because domestic livestock were allowed to roam in the surrounding woods, it is highly likely that the character of the woods was more open and less dense. Pigs especially were allowed to roam in the woods in the fall when the chestnut and oak mast fell to the ground, providing plentiful protein just before winter.

In the 1930s, the chestnut blight occurred, which created openings in the forest canopy and enabled new growth of brush and ground cover in the forest. As people moved from the Settlement in the 1940s, the underbrush established, and first successional forests emerged and covered many portions of the property. Jess Gibbons states that when people left the farms, pines began to grow on the mountain for the first time. The succession of the pine trees may have also been spurred by the chestnut blight.

During the period of significance, mature forest was present immediately southeast of the Willie Gibbons, Lige Gibbons, Finley Hensley, and Park Hensley Farmsteads. It enclosed the core agricultural fields on the north, west, and east sides and separated the Sherman Hensley, Wallace Hensley, Liege Hensley, Oscar Hensley, and Gillis Lee Farmsteads from the others (**Figure 2-10**).

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

With the departure of the last residents atop Brush Mountain, there has been no need to obtain logs for construction and domestic livestock no longer roam the woods. The tree canopy has become dense and mature, providing a much more distinct zone beginning at the edge of the Settlement. Mature forest has encroached on the historically open farmsteads of Sherman Hensley, Wallace Hensley, Liege Hensley, Oscar Hensley, and Gillis Lee (**Figure 2-10**).

Evaluation: Contributing

Although the nature of the surrounding woods has changed, the areas are still legible as surrounding woodlands, and the relationship between the farmsteads, meadows and pastures, and domestic structures still retains its significance. The mature forest serves as a contributing feature in the spatial organization of the landscape.

The Farmsteads and Homesteads

Historic Conditions:

The 1939 CUGA aerial (**Figure 2-10**) imagery was used to create the Hensley Settlement period plan (**Figure 2-11),** which illustrates conditions from 1903 to 1951, the period of significance. In 1939, there are ten discernible farmsteads, a cemetery, and the Brush Mountain School House. Each farmstead was located on ground that was not as steep as surrounding acreage, especially to the south toward the Virginia state line. The following narrative begins with the westernmost farmstead, that of Willie Gibbons, and ends with the Gillis Lee Farmstead, on the far eastern edge of the Settlement.

The Willie Gibbons Farmstead (**Figure 2-11, #1**) was the largest and most developed farmstead at the time of the 1939 aerial. The family cabin was located in close proximity to a spring and creek. Outbuildings are visible throughout the landscape, and the slope on the other side of the creek is dotted with a random but closely planted arrangement of small trees that are presumably the Gibbons apple orchard. A road runs parallel to the buildings, and a fenced garden is located to the east of the road. Oral histories state that the Willie Gibbons Farmstead was one of the few that utilized rock walls and was generally more orderly than many of the other farmsteads.

The Grant Hensley Farmstead (**Figure 2-11, #2**) was just east of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead and has few visible outbuildings surrounding the cabin. The Lige Gibbons Farmstead is east of the Grant Hensley Farmstead and appears to have more outbuildings, a fenced garden, and a small fenced orchard north of the house. This orchard demonstrates a more ordered planting grid of small trees, and the fence closely surrounds the orchard, protecting the trees within. To the east and south of the farmstead is forest cover, with the cabin tucked into the edge of the woods.

On a high point on the flats are two resources that were used by the entire community: the Hensley Cemetery (**Figure 2-11, #4**) and the Brush Mountain School House (**Figure 2-11, #5**). The school house was public and attracted students from the surrounding community. The cemetery burials were primarily members of the Hensley and Gibbons families but included those of a few neighbors who could not be conveniently buried in locations off Brush Mountain during inclement winter weather. While the school served as a community center, the cemetery was visited annually in early summer, when graves were decorated and religious services were held.

The Finley Hensley Farmstead (**Figure 2-11, #6**) is east of the cemetery and does not appear to have many outbuildings. The Bert Hensley Farmstead (**Figure 2-11, #7**) is more similar to that of Willie Gibbons, with a cabin, a fenced garden, a fenced orchard, and a somewhat random order of small trees. The Park Hensley Farmstead (**Figure 2-11, #8**) is comprised of its cabin and one outbuilding, with no connecting fenced plots of land.

The next group of farmsteads are southeast of the earlier farmsteads, near the headwaters of Shillalah Creek. They are separated from the others by a large area of forest cover and are in an area that is more steeply sloped. The Liege Hensley House (**Figure 2-11, #9**) is one of the simpler settings in the community, with a cabin and no visible outbuildings. The Wallace Hensley Farmstead (**Figure 2-11, #10**) contained a cabin, a barn, and a fenced area that was either pasture or a large garden. Oral histories of Wallace and Stella Hensley contain detailed information about the vegetables they grew each year. The barn must have been a replacement for the one that was lost in a fire during the 1930s.

The Sherman Hensley Farmstead (**Figure 2-11, #11**) is bordered on the west by an ordered planting of what appear to be fruit trees surrounded by a protective fence. Sherman Hensley was known to have one of the more expansive orchards, which at one point included an extensive selection of peach trees. They were lost in the 1930s-era fire. According to the oral histories, Sherman Hensley lost upward of fifty peach trees during the event. The Gillis Lee (**Figure 2-11, #12)** and Oscar Hensley (**Figure 2-11, #13**) Farmsteads are both located on the edges of the Settlement, separated by a wide section of forest canopy and secluded from the more active portions of the mountain community by a sizable distance.

Posthistoric Conditions: 1951–1965

The next discussion of historic condition uses the 1952 aerial to locate the structures, vegetation, and circulation of the Settlement. There are some notable changes, but the overall appearance of Hensley Flats is remarkably intact compared

to the 1939 aerial. The three most important changes are the increase in surrounding forest canopy, the relocation of the school house in close proximity to its 1939 location, and the change in the form of fencing used in large portions of the Settlement. Changes in forest canopy are expected in a community with decreasing population when portions of land are no longer farmed or used for pasture. Replacement of fences was necessitated by frequent fires, but there is no record of substantial fires occurring between 1939 and 1952, the dates of the two earliest historic aerials. It is known that a significant fire occurred in the first half of the 1930s, so the change in fencing occurred after that fire. All of the farmsteads located in the 1939 aerial are still visible and surrounded by outbuildings.

Posthistoric Conditions: 1965–1979

The 1969 aerial was used to analyze the change in the Hensley Settlement landscape during the CUGA Job Corps and following years. The period plan clearly displays the substantial changes that occurred at the Settlement during the Job Corps restoration and reconstruction of selected farmsteads, and it also displays the surrounding agricultural land that had begun to return to forest canopy. NPS employees, working with Hensley Settlement family members and with Job Corps management, made strategic choices about which farmsteads best demonstrated the lifestyles and material culture of Hensley Settlement. The remaining farmsteads form a somewhat linear tour route for visitors.

The Willie Gibbons Farmstead was one of the more developed farmsteads, so it provides a broader variety of the outbuildings and structures that supported the work of the family.

East of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, the Grant Hensley Farmstead was removed. East of the Grant Hensley Farmstead, the Lige Gibbons Farmstead no longer has a fenced garden area adjacent to the house, and some of the small trees are no longer in existence. Most of the fencing has been removed, and new split-rail fencing runs along the road to the east.

At Hensley Cemetery, the perimeter fence was relocated, reducing the extent of the cemetery area. This change may have occurred in order to fence only the immediate area around the existing graves. The Brush Mountain School House was rebuilt and moved just south of the cemetery during the period of significance. It now exists near its original location, and the cluster arrangement of cemetery and the school house remains intact. East of the cemetery and school house is the Finley Hensley Farmstead, which has substantially changed in the amount of tree cover in the lower spring and creek portion of the farmstead. Some of the associated buildings are no longer extant, and the fencing has been changed, mostly in order to guide visitors on their tours of the Settlement. The Bert Hensley Farmstead landscape has been simplified, with the cabin serving as the primary resource on the farmstead. Tree cover has filled in from all directions. Temporary structures associated with Job Corps work are still visible. The Liege Hensley Farmstead and the Sherman Hensley Farmstead are now completely surrounded by tree cover and are separated from the overall Settlement.

Existing Conditions: 1979 to Present

The last period plan is based on a 2017 aerial of the Settlement and shows the result of the decision by the NPS to selectively clear and thin forest canopy in the immediate vicinity of the farmsteads and what historically were fields and pastures. This decision returned the interior of the Settlement to a more open, expansive state that better represents the landscape's character during the Settlement's period of significance. Trees that were selected to remain provide shade for visitors and employees.

When the CUGA Job Corps arrived in the 1960s, the farmsteads and homesteads were surrounded by at least fifteen years of undergrowth, and the buildings were in decline. Using the earliest available aerial photographs and the knowledge of former residents, the buildings were repaired or, in many cases, almost totally reconstructed, and some encroaching vegetation was cleared to historic configurations.

When restoration of the Settlement began, the existing farmsteads were still in their historic configurations, as were the cemetery and school house. The NPS reconstructed buildings and structures within the Settlement farmsteads using varying amounts of original fabric and new materials. In some cases, the entire building was reconstructed with new materials.[4] Since that initial restoration, the park has preserved the buildings, structures, and fencing by periodic maintenance of damaged

4 J. D. Brown, "Hensley Settlement," 2.

or deteriorated materials. The current configuration of the remaining cluster arrangements closely matches the historic period and thus represents the settlement when it was occupied by families.

Evaluation: Contributing

The significance and integrity of the represented cluster arrangements portray the Settlement when it was occupied by family members. The locations have been maintained, and the cluster arrangements are legible to the Settlement visitor. Resources are adequate to demonstrate the array of buildings and structures necessary to support large families. The following farmsteads maintain their cluster arrangements and contribute to the integrity of the Settlement: the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, Lige Gibbons Farmstead, Finley Hensley Farmstead, Bert Hensley Farmstead, and Sherman Hensley Farmstead. The Brush Mountain School House and Hensley Cemetery also retain integrity for spatial organization and cluster arrangement. Several of the farmsteads no longer retain their cluster arrangement integrity and do not contribute. These are the Park Hensley House, Grant Hensley Farmstead, Liege Hensley House, Wallace Hensley Farmstead, Gillis Lee Farmstead, and Oscar Hensley Farmstead.

Land Use

Land use is comprised of the primary activities that form, shape, and organize a landscape. At Hensley Settlement, historic and contemporary land use activities included farming, recreation, education, and burial practices.

Agriculture

Historic Conditions:

Subsistence agriculture was the focus of the Settlement. Everything in the Settlement revolved around the growing season, when crops were planted and harvested and when domestic animals were raised and butchered. There was historically a broad range of crops, with a focus on corn as a Settlement commodity. Families grew corn, sorghum, and vegetables and had orchards to provide fruit. Production, processing, and storage was an annual ritual, beginning in spring and continuing until crops were finished in the fall.

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

Immediately after the restoration of the Settlement, the park implemented a farm demonstration program that operated for several years. The farm demonstration program relied on the selective planting of easily grown and harvested crops and on a limited collection of domestic animals. Staffing needs and prohibitive costs caused the program to end. Presently, agriculture is limited to the maintenance of apple tree orchards and open fields, which are bushhogged two or three times annually.

The NPS manages a program of replanting with similar or identical apple species and maintains the fruit trees in their original locations. This program is currently not as extensive, however, as production during the height of the Settlement.

Evaluation: Contributing

Although limited in variety, the agriculture component of Hensley Settlement is still represented in the open fields and apple orchards. The continuity of the apple orchards, in particular, contributes to the significance and integrity of agricultural land use.

Historic Preservation

Historic Conditions:

The CUGA unit of the NPS acquired the lands associated with Hensley Settlement in 1955. Historic preservation efforts resulted in the Settlement being used as an interpretive tool.

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

Through a program of interdiction by the CUGA Job Corps and with participant informants, the Settlement was partially restored to its mid-1930s organization. The Settlement once hosted living farm demonstrations, but the landscape is currently maintained with the goal of representing the activities of a subsistence group of family farms in a communal setting. The 1960s-era restoration has been carefully preserved by the NPS, and today it demonstrates a high level of integrity in its association with the pioneer lifestyle that it interprets.

Evaluation: Contributing

The restoration and preservation of Hensley Settlement serve as important symbols of subsistence living, and the preservation and interpretation of the community demonstrate use of the best practices of preservation.

Cemetery

Historic Conditions:

The earliest internment at the cemetery, that of Sephus [Josephus] Hensley, child of Sherman and Nicey Ann Hensley, is dated 1909. There were numerous burials in the cemetery during the historic period.

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

Burials continued at the cemetery until 1979, when Sherman Hensley died in Virginia and was buried next to Nicey Ann and several members of his deceased family. The cemetery is fenced and continues to be maintained.

Evaluation: Contributing

The cemetery contributes as an intimate experience and a tangible connection to the individuals who built and lived at Hensley Settlement.

Circulation

Circulation comprises the paths, roads, and visitor patterns that define pedestrian and vehicular movement at a site. At Hensley Settlement, there are two main roadways, one that bisects the site—Farm Road Trail—and one that runs along the north edge of the site—Hensley Perimeter Road. Access to the Settlement is from Brownies Creek Road to the east and Shillalah Creek Road to the west. The larger pattern of circulation was primarily linear, moving from the northeast edge of the historic district to the western edge.

Historic Conditions:

There are four significant resources that were part of the original Hensley Settlement during its historic period and were probably used daily during Settlement occupation by the original families: Farm Road Trail, Brownies Creek Road, the Indian Rock Trail, and the Ridge Trail. They served as the primary means of circulation within the Settlement and to surrounding farmsteads. These important roads and trails provided connection within the community, a means of moving domestic animals, and a way to move mechanical equipment later in the Settlement's history.

What once was called Brush Mountain Road (now Farm Road Trail) bisected the site. This is the name of the road on the earliest census tract surveys for the Settlement. The road came up from Cubage, Kentucky, and ran between the fields and pastures to the north, with the homesteads to the south. Most homesteads were located in proximity to the road except those on the far southern edge that are now ruins. Secondary roads circled around garden plots and ran between some homesteads. In the 1939 aerial photograph, desire lines—dirt paths determined by the movement of pedestrians—are visible on the landscape.

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

When the NPS obtained Hensley Settlement, the primary circulation road within the Settlement was still Brush Mountain Road (now called Farm Road Trail). When the CUGA Job Corps initiated work on the buildings and structures, they needed increased access and so constructed a road from Cubage that went up the Kentucky side of the mountain to access the historic district.[5]

Shillalah Creek Road approaches the Settlement from the west, and its name changes to Hensley Perimeter Road as it enters the historic district. It runs along the north edge of the fields and terminates at the maintenance area, east of the district.

The secondary roads and trails from the historic period are used for maintenance vehicles, and some are maintained periodically with gravel. Visitors traverse the site on the original roads and trails. There is no evidence of flagstone, brick, or other paved surfaces on the site.

Currently, the roads and trails mostly follow the original locations and are a visible reminder of the connections between family farmsteads. Both Shillalah Creek Road and Hensley Perimeter Road were added in the posthistoric period and are not significant resources within the Settlement's historic boundary.

5 Angela R. Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, 1922–1972" (PhD diss., Middle Tennessee State University, 2015), 247.

Evaluation: Contributing

Farm Road Trail, Brownies Creek Road, the Indian Rock Trail, and the Ridge Trail are all historic reminders of Hensley Settlement. They were significant in the daily life of the community, and they retain a high level of integrity.

Vegetation

Vegetation consists of individual specimens, masses of deciduous and evergreen trees, orchards, shrubs, vines, ground covers, and herbaceous material, both native and introduced. At Hensley Settlement, the areas surrounding the fields and homes are mixed deciduous and evergreen second- and possibly third-growth forest, individual apple trees and orchards, individual trees throughout parts of the landscape, lines of trees along the visitor roads and paths, some shrubs, perennials in the corners of the cemetery, and *Yucca filamentosa* groupings at several homesites.

When the Bales family received their land grant in 1843, it is probable that the flats atop Brush Mountain were forested, with a high mountain meadow possibly interspersed in the forested lands and plenty of timber and wildlife. Oral histories state that parts of the flats were cleared during John Nichols's tenure from 1898 to 1903, mostly in the direction of Sand Cave. When the Hensley family arrived in the winter of 1903, there was already pasture land available. Each inhabitant states that they cleared land by girdling, setting selective fires, and grubbing and thus gradually opened up their farmsteads for planting and pasturing.

When Sherman Hensley left in 1951, brush began to encroach, and successional growth took hold. With the arrival of the CUGA Job Corps in 1965, it was necessary to remove brush, mow pastures, and clear the landscape in order to reflect the earlier period when it was a communal subsistence farmstead. What remained around the homesites were a few specimen trees, the apple trees, and very few cultivated native plants, such as the yucca previously mentioned. The CUGA Job Corps planted trees along the visitor lanes to provide shade. Overall, the vegetation on the site retains its historic character, with additional plantings that were put in when Hensley Settlement was opened for visitation.

Historic Conditions:

Vegetation during the historic period consisted of shrubs, vines, and ornamentals that were planted in close proximity to many of the farmsteads. Historically, most families had flower beds, herbs, and vegetable beds. There is one image in particular that shows a rose growing in the ornamental landscape surrounding one of the homes. It is not known where this rose was located, but clearly the residents had access to some resources for ornamental plantings.

Pasture and agricultural fields extended into the surrounding landscape. Apple orchards were common in the Settlement, along with yucca plants, roses, and irises. The surrounding forest was mixed chestnut and oak, with some underbrush and wild fruit trees. The chestnut blight caused the death of this major forest tree throughout the country during the 1930s, in the middle of the historic period. A specimen sourwood exists just to the west of the cemetery and north of the school house, which could date to the historic period.

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

Once the Settlement was no longer occupied, family members were not present to maintain ornamental plantings such as flower beds and roses and utilitarian plants such as herbs. These gradually vanished from the landscape during the intervening fifteen-year period. Hardier plants such as the apple trees, yucca, and irises persisted, as they did not require periodic care. A rose bush survived for many years near the Grant Hensley House but has since disappeared. There are apple trees in several locations in the Settlement, the regular appearance of yucca near homesites, and irises in the corners of the cemetery. The specimen sourwood was a favorite tree in the Settlement and is especially popular in the fall, when its leaves turn a vivid red.

After fifty years of growth, many of the trees lining the visitor lanes have reached maturity. They are a mix of oak, maple, a few sourwood, and pine trees. There is also a chestnut stump with shoots on the trail between the school house and the Lige Gibbons Farmstead.

Evaluation: Contributing

Although there have been many changes in the vegetation present in the Settlement, there are

significant numbers of apple trees, yucca plants, and the specimen sourwood that contribute to the overall importance of the vegetation on the site. They each retain integrity of location in relation to farmsteads and community resources such as the cemetery and school house. The integrity of the apple tree orchards, maintained through the use of research and reproduction, provide an especially strong connection with the historic period. The surrounding mature forest, grassed fields, mown pastures, and trees within the pastures also retain integrity and character present during the period of significance.

Buildings and Structures

The buildings and structures of Hensley Settlement are the cabins where the families lived, the barns where they protected livestock and valuable wagons and tools from the elements, and the outbuildings that were necessary for subsistence living. These consisted of corn cribs, granaries, fattening pens, spring houses, smokehouses, outhouses, and potato and apple holes.

Historic Conditions:

At the height of the Settlement, the landscape of Hensley Flats consisted of collections of farmsteads that each contained enough supporting structures related to the raising of livestock and the growth and harvesting of food crops to aid the growth and health of Settlement families. The construction, continued maintenance, and use of the buildings and structures peaked sometime during the 1920s or 1930s. When the final family member left in 1951, most of the buildings and structures still existed in some form.

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

During the years following the end of the occupation of the Settlement in 1951, the resources went through a period of decline. The arrival of the CUGA Job Corps brought a major restoration effort that repaired and reconstructed a select number of buildings, structures, and farmsteads. In 1979, a National Register nomination was completed that listed forty-three contributing resources. An addendum in 1997 changed three resources to noncontributing, which resulted in a new count of forty contributing resources.

When the CUGA Job Corps arrived at Hensley Settlement, certain primary farmsteads were chosen for restoration for interpretive purposes, and these were repaired or rebuilt along with their associated dependencies.

Evaluation: Contributing

The buildings and structures of the Settlement are recognized as contributing structures by the National Register nomination, as amended by a 1997 filing that recategorized three structures, changing them from contributing to noncontributing, and removed one structure that had been razed. In the years since the 1997 addendum to the National Register, two important structures, the Willie Gibbons House and Smokehouse, were destroyed by fire. It is recommended that the two burned structures be reclassified to ruin sites.

Views and Vistas

Historic Conditions:

During most of the historic period, the landscape of Hensley Flats was open agricultural lands with some individual trees as well as a surrounding forest canopy on the steep slopes to the north and south of the Settlement. There were many internal views between farmsteads, and some views out into the surrounding states of Virginia and Kentucky.

Residents recalled that they appreciated and enjoyed the views from the edges of their property looking out south over Virginia or north into Kentucky. What is not clear in the interviews is whether they were standing on their own land, in the woods at the edge of the plateau, or in other locations.

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

At the time of Settlement restoration, encroachment of large brush and small trees had created a new layer of growth unrelated to agriculture. As nature had reclaimed the land, much of the open quality had disappeared. The CUGA Job Corps first completed an initial clearing of the brush and volunteer trees, and this was further expanded during the farmer demonstrator phase of land interpretation. Since the end of the farmer demonstrator period, the land has been maintained as mown pasture, tree edges have been maintained along roadways, and many internal views remain. With the growth of the surrounding tree canopy, views of the Virginia

valleys to the south and across Kentucky to the north are restricted.

Evaluation: Contributing

There are currently multiple views within Hensley Settlement that are important and that relate to the period of significance. With the current maintenance plan, these views remain open and legible and are important to the interpretation of the site. There are ten resources that individually contribute to the significance of the views and vistas at the Settlement. Contributing views and vistas are the following: the view to Virginia; the view to Kentucky; the view east within the Settlement of fields, rolling hills, and trees; the view south to the Willie Gibbons Farmstead from Farm Road Trail; the view north to the Willie Gibbons Farmstead from the Indian Rock Trail; the view southeast to the Lige Gibbons Farmstead; the view west from within the cemetery; the view west to the Park Hensley House; the view west to the Bert Hensley Farmstead and fields; and the view west to the Liege Hensley House. Most of these views still retain a high degree of integrity. The views to Kentucky and Virginia are not as open as they were during the historic period due to the growth of tree canopy on the edges of the historic district.

Small-Scale Features

Small-scale features at Hensley Settlement include cultural features, fences and gates, farm equipment, signs, visitor conveniences, and miscellaneous items.

Historic Conditions:

There are several small-scale features that date to the historic period and that are important to the Settlement. The grave markers are particularly important, as many of them are handmade and carved. Fences and gates have been frequently repaired, and there is evidence that some of the locations date to the historic period. Stone retaining walls and other stone walls are located in the Settlement and are significant resources. The stone retaining wall at the Willie Gibbons Farmstead separates the higher elevation of the pasture to the east from the trail to the west. Stone walls in the wooded areas north and outside the current boundary of the historic district, including a possible weir feature within one of the walls, are still extant. An unidentified resource near the Sherman Hensley Farmstead is of unknown origin and use but appears to date to the historic period.

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

The historic small-scale features were not changed significantly during the period following the last family occupation of the Settlement. Fencing has been replaced periodically, as weather and decay have required restoration and reconstruction.

Some fencing and gates built by the park service serve as path barriers and do not convey the character of the Settlement during the period of significance. Other extant small-scale features are used for interpretation and visitor services, such as farm equipment, signage, and litter receptacles. Further, miscellaneous items are present and do not contribute to the historic character of the period of significance of Hensley Settlement.

Evaluation: Contributing

The grave markers, the existing fences in historic locations, the Willie Gibbons stone retaining wall, the unidentified structure near the Sherman Hensley Farmstead, the linear rock pile north of Hensley Perimeter Road, and the possible weir north of the road were present during the historic period, are significant to the site, and retain a high level of integrity.

Archeological Resources

Historic Conditions:

Archeological resources are subsurface features and aboveground recoverable artifacts. This is primarily evidence of past human activities or habitation but also includes floral and faunal data that can be used to add to the sites' history. The importance of Hensley Settlement as a possible resource is enhanced by the location of the plateau in such close proximity to the Wilderness Trail and Cumberland Gap, the history of American Indian occupancy in the area, and the knowledge that the Gap provided a gateway for people and animals. The later occupation by the Hensley Settlement families also adds an additional layer of potential resource material.

Posthistoric and Existing Conditions:

The areas immediately surrounding each of the habitations, outbuildings, and ruins are eligible for

testing, excavation, and examination. Archeological testing has been conducted and documented in reports when utilities have been installed on the site. There was likely considerable disturbance during the CUGA Job Corps era, but that does not negate the probability of significant resources extant in the historic district. The fact that many structures are built on raised foundations instead of excavated and poured foundations adds to this argument.

Evaluation: Contributing

Archeological resources may yield further clues into the human and animal habitation of Hensley Settlement. New information learned through archeology allows for a better understanding and more accurate interpretation of the Settlement.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION CHART

The following chart documents the resources of Hensley Settlement in table format and categorizes their current status on the National Register. It details any changes to previously documented resources, and it lists additional resources recommended for inclusion in an updated addendum. Many of the added features relate to landscape resources and the apple orchards, which are particularly significant and retain a high level of integrity.

FIGURE 4–1. Analysis and Evaluation Chart

Preferred Name	CRIS #	Evaluation	Historical Condition and Notes	NR Update Needed
TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL SYSTEMS				
Hensley Flats		Proposed contributing	Geologic feature present	✓
Spring and swale near the Finley Hensley House		Proposed contributing	Hydrologic feature present	✓
Spring and swale near the Willie Gibbons House		Proposed contributing	Hydrologic feature present	✓
Shillalah Creek		Proposed contributing	Hydrologic feature present	✓
SPATIAL ORGANIZATION AND CLUSTER ARRANGEMENT				
Open land with trees and tree groupings		Proposed contributing	Open land present during the period of significance; trees compatible with historic character	✓
Apple orchards		Proposed contributing	Apple orchards near farmsteads present during the period of significance	✓
Mature forest		Proposed contributing	Mature forest not extant during the period of significance but is compatible with historic character	✓
Willie Gibbons Farmstead		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Lige Gibbons Farmstead		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Grant Hensley Farmstead		Missing as a cluster arrangement	Present during the period of significance	
Finley Hensley Farmstead		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Bert Hensley Farmstead		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓

SPATIAL ORGANIZATION AND CLUSTER ARRANGEMENT (Continued)				
Liege Hensley House		Missing as a cluster arrangement	Present during the period of significance	
Wallace Hensley Farmstead		Missing as a cluster arrangement	Present during the period of significance	
Sherman Hensley Farmstead		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Gillis Lee Farmstead		Missing as a cluster arrangement	Present during the period of significance	
Oscar Hensley Farmstead		Missing as a cluster arrangement	Present during the period of significance	
Hensley Cemetery and Brush Mountain School House		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
LAND USE				
Agriculture		Proposed Contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Historic preservation		Proposed Contributing	Current land use	✓
Cemetery		Proposed Contributing	Current land use and present during the period of significance	✓
CIRCULATION				
Shillalah Creek Road		Noncontributing	Built c. 1970s for tour access	
Hensley Perimeter Road		Noncontributing	Built c. 1970s for tour access	
Farm Road Trail		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Brownies Creek Road		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Indian Rock Trail		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Ridge Trail		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓

VEGETATION				
Perimeter shrubs and vines		Missing	Present during the period of significance	
Flower, herb, and vegetable beds		Missing	Present during the period of significance	
Grassed fields, mown pastures, and deciduous trees		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Apple trees		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Peach trees		Missing	Present during the period of significance	
Yucca, *Yucca filamentosa*		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Rose, *Rosa* cvs.		Missing	Present during the period of significance	
Sourwood, *Oxydendrum arboreum*		Proposed contributing	Unknown whether this specimen was present during the period of significance; it is compatible with historic character	✓
Iris, *Iris* cvs.		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Chestnut shoots between the Brush Mountain School House and the Lige Gibbons Farmstead		Proposed contributing	Unknown whether shoots are from a tree that was present during the period of significance; chestnut trees were used by settlers for house-building materials and are rare due to blight	✓
Surrounding forest		Proposed contributing	Existing forest extents are larger than those that existed during the period of significance but are compatible with historic character	✓
Single apple tree in the forest, between the Lige Gibbons and Finley Hensley Farmsteads		Proposed contributing	Unknown whether this specimen was present during the period of significance; it is compatible with historic character	✓

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES				
Willie Gibbons House	7042	Contributing, update status of structure to ruin	Constructed 1924; reconstructed with 50 percent new material in 1968; listed in 1980 NR; burned down in 2000	✓
Willie Gibbons Smokehouse	7045	Contributing, update status of structure to ruin	Constructed 1925; reconstructed with 100 percent new material in 1968; listed in 1980 NR; burned down in 2000	✓
Willie Gibbons Blacksmith Shop	7066	Contributing	Constructed 1918; reconstructed in 1968 with 50 percent new material; listed in 1980 NR	
Willie Gibbons Spring House	7048	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed in 1967 with 100 percent new material; listed in 1980 NR	
Willie Gibbons Woodshed	7065	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed in 1968 with 100 percent new material; listed in 1980 NR	
Willie Gibbons Hen House	7046	Contributing	Constructed 1925; reconstructed with 100 percent new material in 1967; listed in 1980 NR	
Willie Gibbons Outhouse	7047	Contributing	Constructed 1930; reconstructed with 100 percent new material in 1967; listed in 1980 NR	
Willie Gibbons Granary	7044	Contributing	Constructed 1925; reconstructed with an unknown percentage of new material in 1967; listed in 1980 NR	
Willie Gibbons Barn	7043	Contributing	Constructed 1924; reconstructed with an unknown percentage of new material in 1968; listed in 1980 NR	
Willie Gibbons Hog House	7063	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed in 1967 with 100 percent new material; listed in 1980 NR	
Willie Gibbons Sheep Barn	7072	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed in 1973 with 100 percent new material; listed in 1980 NR	
Willie Gibbons Apple Hole	7062	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed in 1968, 1983, and 2015 (and other years probable) with 100 percent new material; listed in 1980 NR	

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES (Continued)				
Lige Gibbons House	7051	Contributing	Constructed 1922; reconstructed with 75 percent new material in 1972; listed in 1980 NR	
Lige Gibbons Corn Crib	7054	Contributing	Constructed 1930; reconstructed with 100 percent new material in 1967; listed in 1980 NR	
Lige Gibbons Hen House	7053	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed in 1967 with 60 percent new material; listed in 1980 NR	
Lige Gibbons Hog House	7064	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed in 1967 with 100 percent new material; listed in 1980 NR	
Lige Gibbons Outhouse	7055	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed in 1967 with 100 percent new material; listed in 1980 NR	
Lige Gibbons Barn	7061	Contributing	Constructed 1930; reconstructed with 100 percent new material in 1967; listed in 1980 NR	
Finley Hensley House	7068	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed in 1982 with an unknown percentage of new material; listed in 1980 NR	
Finley Hensley Barn	7061	Noncontributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed in the 1970s and 1982 with an unknown percentage of new material; listed in 1980 NR; changed to noncontributing in 1997 since 90 percent of original material had been lost	
Finley Hensley Granary (site)	92492	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed with an unknown percentage of new material; listed in 1980 NR; recommended to be removed from NR in 1997	
Finley Hensley Spring House (site)	None	Contributing	Structure does not exist; listed in 1980 NR	
Bert Hensley House	92491	Noncontributing	Unknown original construction date, reconstructed with an unknown percentage of new material in 1969; listed in 1980 NR; changed to noncontributing in 1997	

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES (Continued)				
Bert Hensley Smokehouse	7071	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed with 100 percent new material in 1969; listed in 1980 NR	
Bert Hensley Hen House	7076	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed with an unknown percentage of new material in 1969; listed in 1980 NR	
Bert Hensley Hog House	7077	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed with an unknown percentage of new material; listed in 1980 NR	
Bert Hensley Hog Pen	None	Noncontributing	Unknown original construction date; not listed in NR; more information needed; add to NR as noncontributing	✓
Bert Hensley Barn (site)	None	Contributing	Structure does not exist; listed in 1980 NR	
Park Hensley House	925	Noncontributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed with an unknown percentage of new material in 1969; listed in 1980 NR; changed to noncontributing in 1997	
Liege Hensley House	7050	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed with an unknown percentage of new material in 1979; listed in 1980 NR	
Brush Mountain School House	7049	Contributing	Constructed 1928; reconstructed with 40 percent new material in 1972; listed in 1980 NR	
Brush Mountain School Outhouse #1 West	7073	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed with 100 percent new material in 1972; listed in 1980 NR	
Brush Mountain School Outhouse #2 East	7074	Contributing	Unknown original construction date; reconstructed with 100 percent new material in 1972; listed in 1980 NR	
Hensley Graveyard	7075	Contributing, recommend reclassification	Present during the period of significance; listed in 1980 NR	✓
Wallace Hensley House (ruin)	7059	Contributing	Structure exists as ruins; listed in 1980 NR	

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES (Continued)				
Wallace Hensley Barn (ruin)	None	Contributing	Structure does not exist; listed in 1980 NR	
Sherman Hensley House (ruin)	7056	Contributing	Structure exists as ruins; listed in 1980 NR	
Sherman Hensley Corn Crib (ruin)	7057	Contributing	Structure exists as ruins; listed in 1980 NR	
Sherman Hensley Hen House (ruin)	7058	Contributing	Structure exists as ruins; listed in 1980 NR	
Sherman Hensley Stock Pen (ruin)	None	Contributing	Structure exists as ruins; listed in 1980 NR	
Sherman Hensley Smokehouse (ruin)	7069	Contributing	Structure exists as ruins; listed in 1980 NR	
Gillis Lee House (ruin)	None	Contributing	Structure does not exist; listed in 1980 NR	
Oscar Hensley House (ruin)	None	Contributing	Structure exists as ruins; listed in 1980 NR	
Grant Hensley Cabin (ruin)	None	Contributing	Structure does not exist; listed in 1980 NR	
VIEWS AND VISTAS				
View to Virginia		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
View to Kentucky		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
View east to the fields, rolling hills, trees		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
View south to the Willie Gibbons Farmstead from Farm Road Trail		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
View north to the Willie Gibbons Farmstead from Indian Rock Trail		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
View southeast to the Lige Gibbons Farmstead		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
View west within the cemetery		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
View west to the Park Hensley House		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
View west to the Bert Hensley Farmstead and fields		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
View west to the Liege Hensley House		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓

SMALL-SCALE FEATURES				
Grave markers		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Concrete pad south of the Bert Hensley House		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Two cast-iron pots near the porch of the Finley Hensley House		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Fences and gates in historic locations (paling, post and rail, worm, barbed wire)		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Fences and gates in nonhistoric locations		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Willie Gibbons stone retaining wall		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Hay rakes		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Millstones		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Signs		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Litter and recycle receptacles		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Picnic tables		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Water spigot		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Water valve hole		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Survey marker		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Metal box near the Bert Hensley House		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Chimney near the Park Hensley House		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Round metal fire pit and lid near the Liege Hensley House		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Triangular wooden structure near the Bert Hensley House		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Wood piles near the maintenance area		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Items, Bert Hensley Smokehouse		Noncontributing	Contemporary addition	
Unidentified structure near the Sherman Hensley Farmstead		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Linear rock pile north of Hensley Perimeter Road, near the Willie Gibbons Farmstead		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓
Stacked stone pile on the east side of the rock pile line, possible weir		Proposed contributing	Present during the period of significance	✓

ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES				
All sites listed in the National Register as contributing as well as noncontributing buildings and structures are considered potential archeological resources. Additionally, all small-scale features listed as contributing are considered potential archeological resources.		Proposed contributing	Sites could yield items and materials related to the period of significance	✓

Chapter 5

TREATMENT

This chapter will establish goals and objectives for managing the cultural landscape and will provide guidance for future decisions. It presents treatment options and specific tasks that support the long-term preservation and management of Hensley Settlement at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park (CUGA). According to National Park Service (NPS) policy, Cultural Landscape Reports (CLR) serve as the primary supporting documents responsible for guiding the treatment of cultural landscapes and are required before major interventions. Treatment is the collective set of actions taken on behalf of a cultural resource to ensure protection and preservation of park assets, and characteristics that contribute to the significance of the resource. Guidance may range from broad guidelines to specific tasks.

TREATMENT PHILOSOPHY

The Hensley Settlement treatment philosophy is intended to establish the principles required to preserve the character-defining features of the cultural landscape. Hensley Settlement was obtained by the NPS to preserve what was called "America's last pioneer settlement." The Settlement depicts the lifestyle of a self-sufficient isolated southern Appalachian community as it existed in the decades before and after 1900.

The remote location and large collection of structures that have been maintained in place help tell the story of the self-sufficient mountain culture of the former residents who lived atop Brush Mountain without any modern amenities from 1903 to 1951. During the 1970s, a living farm demonstration was used to tell the story of the settlers. The park hired a farmer, a foreman, and a farmer demonstrator, and they began cultivating vegetable gardens and tobacco, maintaining the historic apple orchards, planting field crops, and raising cattle and livestock. These activities, coupled with landscape features such as the buildings and fences and apple trees, helped visitors to understand what it might have been like to live off the land in this remote place.[1]

Because the living farm demonstrations were cost prohibitive, they did not last more than a few years. Without the advantage of maintaining an operational farm, another effective way must be found to tell the story of the residents. Key to this effort are the buildings and structures present in their original settlement patterns. The Settlement consists of forty contributing structures, most of which are within approximately sixty acres of cleared land. On a recent site visit, ruins were located in wooded areas on the perimeters and outside the Hensley Settlement Historic District boundary. These structures are considered to be of primary importance, as visiting the historic structures within the landscape helps visitors experience the cultural heritage of the site.

Of equal importance are the historic apple orchards that were once present at every farmstead. The apple orchards are a tangible link to the past that can illustrate to visitors how the settlers managed to survive here for nearly five decades. Today, visitors can still see some of the historic apple tree stock that was planted by the settlers. They are living evidence of the past and are worthy of preservation, as they tell an important part of the story of the Hensleys, Gibbonses, and neighboring families.

Changes in climate for the region may pose increased hazards such as drought, wildfires, flooding, erosion, and damage to structures from intense, heavy rainfall. The frequency and intensity of extreme rainfall is projected to increase, causing greater stormwater runoff and erosion. Warmer temperatures also increase evaporation, so although there is more rainfall, the heat causes this water to evaporate rather than filter into the soil. This dries out soils and reduces the amount of water that is available for groundwater recharge and accessible

1 Angela R. Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, 1922–1972" (PhD diss., Middle Tennessee State University, 2015), 309.

to established vegetation.

This cycle of unpredictable weather could lead to more severe droughts and hotter temperatures.[2] This new climate may cause certain species of trees to die off, which would create openings in the forest canopy and increase the growth of brush and ground cover. Excess levels of grass and brush can build up high levels of biomass, which can be fuel for forest fires during periods of drought.[3]

An NPS climate study for CUGA states that under the highest emissions scenario, climate models project fifteen to twenty more days per year with a maximum temperature greater than 95 degrees Fahrenheit by 2100, and the occurrence of twenty-year storms is projected to increase to once every five years.[4] Because the elevation of Hensley Settlement is much higher than that of the rest of CUGA, some of the climate predictions may be less severe. The effects of climate change at Hensley Settlement will likely be significant, however, as changes in climate can alter ecosystems, food sources, drainage, vegetation, and tree canopy.

Although the Settlement structures that are in good condition appear to be safe from the direct effects of climate change, there may be unforeseen challenges. Most of the built landscape is made from raw wood, so exterior materials such as shingles, siding, rails, and posts may need to be replaced more regularly, as these materials will likely be exposed to wetter conditions and higher temperatures. The structures located in the forest are in a state of decline and are therefore more susceptible and may decompose faster if exposed to a more extreme environment. Extreme rain events can also cause the exposure of archeological resources, beginning the rapid process of decay.

Natural systems and vegetation are also vulnerable at Hensley Settlement. The apple trees, which are a character-defining feature of the Settlement, may be affected by a changing climate. If the Settlement receives less rainfall, groundwater levels can be lower. That can mean less water for the apple trees, which are not irrigated and thus rely on groundwater. The health of some species of apples could be affected by higher temperatures, since different apple tree varieties thrive in different temperatures. Some are heat lovers, such as the Grimes Golden and Winesap, which will do well; varieties such as McIntosh, though, perform better in cold weather and probably will not survive.[5]

The effects of rainfall and temperature changes are not likely to reduce the overall forest canopy, but these changes will alter the makeup of the forests. Native species that have historically performed well, such as sugar maples, will likely begin to decline in favor of the oak and hickory trees that are dominant in the region. Climate change will likely increase the insect-related decline of tree species as well,[6] as happened with the American chestnut blight during the 1930s. Another issue that may affect visitation is the spread of vector-borne diseases by ticks and mosquitos, which will be exacerbated by longer, hotter summers.[7]

Treatment also recognizes the restrictions of maintaining a cultural landscape in a remote location with minimal park staff and a shortened work season, as snow makes the Settlement inaccessible during winter months. These limiting factors have guided some of the treatment recommendations. Treatment will strive to balance these challenges while preserving the essential qualities that are important to conveying the historic character of the site.

Primary Treatment: Preservation

The Secretary of the Interior is responsible for establishing professional standards on the preservation of cultural resources listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* define four primary treatment approaches including *preservation*,

2 "What Climate Change Means for Kentucky," EPA in Kentucky, Environmental Protection Agency, January 19, 2017, https://www.epa.gov/ky.

3 Jacob Margolis, "The Invasive, Flammable Plants Making California's Fires Worse," Southern California Public Radio, National Public Radio, December 22, 2017, www.scpr.org/news/2017/12/12/78789/the-invasive-flammable-plants-making-california-s/.

4 Patrick Gonzalez, *Climate Change Summary, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, USA. National Park Service Climate Change Response Program* (Washington, DC: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, January 7, 2015), irma.nps.gov/Datastore/DownloadFile/519244, 1.

5 Susan A. Dolan, "Historic Apple Orchards," phone interview with author, January 28, 2020.

6 "What Climate Change Means for Kentucky."

7 Ryan Van Velzer, "Ky. Won't Escape Human-Driven Climate Change, Federal Report Warns," 89.3 WFPL News Louisville, November 27, 2018, https://wfpl.org/kentucky-wont-escape-human-driven-climate-change-federal-report-warns/.

restoration, *rehabilitation*, and *reconstruction*. *Preservation* standards require retention of the greatest amount of historic fabric, including the landscape's historic form, features, and details as they have evolved over time. *Rehabilitation* standards acknowledge the need to alter or add to a cultural landscape in order to meet continuing or new uses while retaining the landscape's historic character. *Restoration* standards allow for the depiction of a landscape at a particular time in its history by preserving materials from the period of significance and removing materials from later periods. *Reconstruction* standards establish a framework for re-creating a vanished or nonsurviving landscape with new materials, primarily for interpretive purposes.

The Secretary of the Interior identifies the following eight standards under Preservation:[8]

1. A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that maximizes the retention of distinctive materials, features, spaces, and relationships. Where a treatment and use have not been identified, a property will be protected and, if necessary, stabilized until additional work may be undertaken.

2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The replacement of intact or repairable historic materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.

3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Work needed to stabilize, consolidate, and conserve existing historic materials and features will be physically and visually compatible, identifiable upon close inspection, and properly documented for future research.

4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.

5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.

6. The existing condition of historic features will be evaluated to determine the appropriate level of intervention needed. Where the severity of deterioration requires repair or limited replacement of a distinctive feature, the new material will match the old in composition, design, color, and texture.

7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.

8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.

The primary treatment recommendation at Hensley Settlement is preservation. The expressed goal of the *Standards for Preservation and Guidelines for Preserving Cultural Landscapes* is retention of the landscape's existing form, features, and materials. Preservation is focused on preserving character-defining and contributing features and allows for limited replacement in kind and removals of incompatible, noncontributing features. This standard reflects the goals and objectives outlined in the treatment philosophy.

Treatment Reference Dates: 1903–1951

To provide a benchmark for managing the historic character of a landscape, a treatment date is determined. For Hensley Settlement, treatment reference dates include the period of occupance by the Hensleys, Gibbonses, and allied families, which spanned from 1903, when Sherman Hensley arrived at the site, through 1951, when he was the last person to leave the Settlement. This period is representative of the features that give Hensley Settlement significance—namely, its architecture, remote location, and communal nature, the summation of which is a unique example of Appalachian patterns of settlement. These reference dates do not require the removal of nonhistoric features but rather serves as a range of time used to inform management decisions.

8 Anne E. Grimmer, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings*, (Washington DC: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Technical Preservation Services, 2017), 28.

TREATMENT CHART

The following chart provides recommendations for treatment. Each recommendation has a specific number, most of which are noted on the treatment plan in **Figure 5-2**. Background or supported information is included for most tasks. The last column lists the numbers of other related tasks for easy cross-referencing. For items that relate to updating the National Register nomination form, the letters "NR" will be included in the related task column.

FIGURE 5–1. Hensley Settlement Treatment Matrix. Source: STA

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
Climate Change			
CC-1	Engage the Climate Change Response Program to add CUGA to their work plan to run climate change scripts/models for Hensley Settlement (HS). This will provide data about exposure to temperature, rainfall, and humidity as well as a summary of climate impacts on park resources. NPS Climate Change Response Program should work with CUGA and research partners to prepare the initial documentation, to apply models to HS, and to analyze results. This scenario-based planning considers the full range of potential climate futures and is designed to help park staff prepare for plausible future conditions.	The Climate Change Resource Brief for CUGA explains that "climate change will manifest itself not only as changes in average conditions … but also as changes in particular climate events (e.g. more intense storms, flood, or drought)." A second NPS climate study for CUGA states that under the highest emissions scenario, climate models project fifteen to twenty more days per year with a maximum temperature greater than 95° F by 2100, and the occurrence of twenty-year storms is projected to increase to once every five years. This new climate may cause certain species of trees to die off, creating openings in the forest canopy. This makes room for opportunistic invasive species of grasses and brush to grow. Excess levels of grass and brush can build up high levels of biomass, which can be fuel for forest fires during periods of drought. Due to changes in climate, increased temperature and precipitation may create a more favorable environment for invasive species and may increase the growth and toxicity of poison ivy. These predicted conditions are favorable to mosquitos and ticks, which may impact visitation. As the elevation of HS is much higher than that of the rest of CUGA, some of the climate predictions may be different; this means that at HS the maximum temperatures may be lower than 95° F, although HS is likely to experience hotter days more often than before.	NS-2 BS-10
CC-2	More days with temperatures above 90°F have the potential to impact the production of apples within HS. Take appropriate measures to ensure the healthy production of the orchards for demonstration purposes.	If climate predictions are accurate, higher temperatures have the potential to impact the production of apples within HS. Heat lovers like Grimes Golden and Winesap will do well, whereas varieties that like cold weather, such as McIntosh, likely will not survive. If historic varieties are unavailable, and a drought/heat tolerant variety is needed, Rome Beauty is a good choice.	VG-1 VG-7–VG-18
CC-3	Use mitigation techniques to control erosion if excessive rainfall has exposed archeological resources.	As the frequency and intensity of rainfall is projected to increase, the risk of erosion, flooding, and damage to archeological resources is also projected to increase. The Kentucky Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Field Guide recommends the following actions: ▪ Preserve existing vegetation ▪ Divert upland runoff around exposed soil ▪ Mulch or cover bare soil immediately ▪ Use sediment barriers to trap soil in runoff ▪ Protect slopes/channels from gullying	AF-4 SS-5 BS-12

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as needed	Related Tasks
CC-4	Complete HSRs for the farmsteads and school house and associated buildings in HS to plan for greater sustainability of historic structures.	The HSRs should include recommendations for the most appropriate replacement materials. They should provide recommendations for more durable and sustainable materials with which to replace components within HS Historic District.	BS-3 BS-4 BS-5 BS-6
CC-5	When repairing landscape features, match the material and size of replacement parts (when possible) to those of the parts used by the original settlers or installed by the CUGA Job Corps. When an exact matching part is unavailable or infeasible to acquire, materials should be similar to what existed during the period of significance.	Historically, gate hinges for the Settlement could have differed from gate to gate or from farmstead to farmstead. For ease of maintenance and replacement, use consistent hinge material and size for gates. Hot-dipped galvanized steel and ungalvanized natural steel were both available during the period of significance and may have been used as gate hinge material. Hot-dipped galvanized steel will be more durable for hinges and other metal components, however. The hinge should be rectangular, with no ornamentation. If the existing hinge or part to be replaced is compatible with historic conditions, choose a replacement that matches the size of the part to be replaced. A heavy-gauge steel will be more durable and more authentic. Wood screws should be Phillips head, made of galvanized steel. Allow all replacement components to rust naturally.	SS-5

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
Topography and Natural Systems			
NS-1	Retain the historic relationship between buildings and landscape.		
NS-2	Update established management plans to reflect the results of the Climate Change Response Program, which will determine which species of trees and animals are vulnerable.		CC-1
NS-3	Document the chestnut shoots that are growing from in-ground stumps on-site and that are visible from the tour route.	One example of chestnut shoots growing from buried stumps on-site exists near the trail between the school house and the Lige Gibbons Farmstead.	VG-2 NS-5
NS-4	Evaluate the potential impact to wildlife habitat prior to undertaking any vegetation removal project (e.g., endangered Indiana bat, hemlocks, chestnuts, and southern pines).		NS-5 NS-6
NS-5	Avoid altering the habitats of rare, threatened, or endangered species or species of special concern during routine maintenance and/or during other projects that may alter the site. Do not disturb healthy stands of hemlock, or southern pines, as these species are predicted to incur the greatest impacts from changes in climate.		NS-3 NS-4

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
NS-6	Follow the Fire Management Plan, which was updated by CUGA in coordination with the Regional Fire Management Office, for prescribed burns to decrease understory fuel loads.		LU-1 NS-4
NS-7	Use bear deterrent to prevent bears from damaging apple trees.		BS-11 VG-17
NS-8	Update the National Register nomination form to include the following topography and natural systems resources as contributing features: Hensley Flats, Shillalah Creek, and the springs and swales near the Willie Gibbons House and Finley Hensley House.		NR

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
Spatial Organization and Cluster Arrangement			
SO-1	If or when adding new trees to the HS landscape, ensure placement does not alter the character of the farmsteads or historic cluster arrangement.		VG-3 VV-2
SO-2	Update the National Register nomination form to include the following resources that are contributing features for their spatial organization and cluster arrangements: open fields with trees and tree groupings, apple orchards, mature forests, the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, the Lige Gibbons Farmstead, the Finley Hensley Farmstead, the Bert Hensley Farmstead, the Sherman Hensley Farmstead, Hensley Cemetery, and the Brush Mountain School House.	Open land and trees, apple orchards, and mature forest are natural resources forming a spatial organization and cluster arrangement that were present during the period of significance. The current spatial organization of the features, although in different proportions than it was originally, is compatible with historic conditions. Some farmsteads, along with Hensley Cemetery and the Brush Mountain School House, are buildings and structures that contribute to historic patterns of spatial organization and cluster arrangement, as many of their related outbuildings are extant and are in their historic locations.	NR

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
Maintenance			
MA-1	Evaluate all fencing and determine whether existing noncontributing fencing is necessary for current park practices or whether it can be removed (all not found on the 1939 aerial).		SS-1 CL-1 MA-2
MA-2	After noncontributing fencing is removed, revise existing bushhogging, weed-eating, and mowing extents, and schedule to reduce maintenance for park staff.		MA-1 SS-3
MA-3	Determine the general level of care and maintenance that is most appropriate for the park at this time, based on available resources, to prioritize immediate maintenance needs and to plan for and/or dedicate future funds for future maintenance needs. Priority should be placed on securing building envelopes from water infiltration. Regular inspection and repair of roofs, exterior walls, and flooring should be carried out to ensure that water does not compromise structures.		VG-1 BS-1
MA-4	Determine the level of care and maintenance that is most appropriate for the park at this time, based on the information in the "Care Recommendations for Apple Orchards." Using this information, develop a new strategy for maintaining the apple trees at HS. Examples of maintenance tasks are pruning, bracing, removing encroaching or competing vegetation, and irrigating.	Review "Care Recommendations for Apple Orchards" in Vegetation section of Treatment.	CC-2 VG-1 VG-7–VG-18
MA-5	Remove detritus, such as house debris and tree debris, from view. Combine the burn piles and relocate them out of view of tour routes. Additionally, place burn piles in locations that will be least harmful to other resources when burned.		SS-10

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
Cultural Traditions			
CT-1	Coordinate with interpretive staff to create audio tour modules. Use the original voices from the HS Oral History Project interview recordings to create interactive audio tours that visitors can download.		

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
Land Use			
LU-1	Limit, monitor, and control access to areas that are vulnerable to damage from human access or use. Safeguard buildings from human-caused fires (e.g., the Willie Gibbons House).		NS-6

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
Circulation			
CL-1	Retain current circulation routes, as they are historically accurate. Circulation through the site at the height of HS was similar to what is extant. See Treatment Plan (**Figure 5-2**).	Two areas within HS differ slightly from historic circulation patterns: ▪ A more pronounced curve was located in Farm Road Trail between the former Grant Hensley and Lige Gibbons Farmsteads. ▪ Near the Bert Hensley Farmstead, the bend in Farm Road Trail is presently more streamlined; there were previously several paths leading from the Finley Hensley Farmstead spring house to the Bert Hensley House, a path from the Bert Hensley House to Brownies Creek Road, another path from the Bert Hensley House down to the Bert Hensley Barn, and a path from that barn leading back to the Finley Hensley Farmstead.	MA-1 SS-1
CL-2	Update the National Register nomination form to include the following circulation resources as contributing features: Farm Road Trail, Brownies Creek Road, Indian Rock Trail, and the Ridge Trail. These trails are located within and around HS and are the same or similar to what existed during the period of significance.		NR

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
Vegetation			
VG-1	Preserve contributing vegetation at each farmstead through regularly scheduled maintenance. Examples include historic apple trees, yucca, and irises.	Contributing vegetation can be found in the Analysis and Evaluation chapter. See the chart of contributing landscape features (**Figure 4-1**).	CC-2 MA-3
VG-2	Document the chestnut shoots that are growing from in-ground stumps on-site and are visible from the tour route.	One example of chestnut shoots growing from in-ground stumps on-site exists near the trail between the school house and the Lige Gibbons Farmstead.	NS-3 VG-3 VG-4
VG-3	Plant blight-resistant chestnut trees near farmsteads for interpretation purposes. Place these trees adjacent to a nearby tree line (or individually within the open fields of the Settlement, north of Farm Road Trail) so that the new trees do not alter the character of the farmstead cluster arrangement.	The USDA Forest Service has been partnering with the American Chestnut Foundation to restore chestnuts to American forests. They have completed eight years of research and are close to developing a blight-resistant American Chestnut.	SO-1 VG-2
VG-4	Establish a partnership with the Forest Service and offer HS as a test planting site for blight-resistant chestnut trees.		VG-2 VG-3
VG-5	Cut tree suckers within farmstead views, particularly near the Park Hensley House.		
VG-6	Allow successional plants to grow on the south side of Hensley Perimeter Road to buffer the road from significant features. The buffer should be thirty to fifty feet and should run the length of Hensley Perimeter Road to the maintenance area. Allow some breaks in the buffer so that people may view the interior of the Settlement from the road.		
		Recommendations VG-7 through VG-18 are based on a phone interview with Susan Dolan, NPS specialist on orchard management and preservation. According to Dolan, the HS apple trees "are living evidence of how a people managed to live here for decades. They are a critical part of the story. They are contributing features that need to be identified," and we should "consider them on par with the cabins" as being worthy of preservation because they are the one tangible link that a visitor may experience that explains how the people of HS survived.	CC-2
VG-7	Dedicate resources for park staff members to take an orchard management course to achieve the following: ▪ Understand the principles of stabilization and preservation of historic orchards ▪ Perform condition assessments of historic fruit trees ▪ Learn how to use pruning tools safely ▪ Learn pruning techniques for stabilization and preservation	According to Dolan, The *Historic Orchard and Fruit Tree Stabilization Handbook* and the "Orchard Management Plan for Manzanar National Historic Site" are good references that might be useful for orchard management at HS.	CC-2 MA-4

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as needed	Related Tasks
VG-8	Survey and remap the existing apple trees at HS using GIS technology. Data collected should include the following information: ▪ Measure DBH – trees with a DBH of 8 or greater may date from the period of significance ▪ Tree variety (for each apple tree) ▪ Farmstead location ▪ Whether the tree is natural/grafted/ replanted ▪ Description of fruit ▪ Description of the overall condition of the tree	In October of 2008, Jennifer Beeler, Martha Wiley, Kevin Wright, and Harold Jerrell used GIS technology to survey the Hensley Settlement apple trees. This information is a good baseline for establishing the importance of the apple trees at the Settlement. As it is over ten years since the last survey, however, the data must be updated. The survey stated whether the tree was grafted, was natural, or had been replanted, and it briefly described the fruit found on or near each tree. The surveyors also attempted to guess the type of apple, but this portion of the data seems inconclusive. Upon field verification of the GIS data collected in 2008, STA found that the locations of the trees in the GIS data did not completely match up with what was observed on-site. It was also apparent that many young saplings have been planted since the 2008 survey, and these trees must be catalogued. For additional information, refer to Chapter 5, "Evaluating the Significance and Integrity of Historic Orchards and Fruit Trees," in the 2009 NPS document titled *A Fruitful Legacy*.	NR CC-2 VG-14 MA-4
VG-9	Contact heirloom apple species experts to determine the several species and varieties at HS and to create an informed plan for their survival.		CC-2 MA-4
VG-10	Update the National Register nomination form to include the following vegetation resources as contributing features: grassed fields, mown pastures, trees in pastures, the surrounding forest, apple trees, yuccas (*Yucca filamentosa*), the sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboretum*) near the cemetery, irises (*Iris* cvs.), and the chestnut shoots (*Castanea dentata*) between the Lige Gibbons Farmstead and the school house.		CC-2 MA-4
VG-11	Stabilize the historic apple tree stock in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards to prevent further deterioration of its condition until long-term treatment actions occur.	Stabilization should include removing all deadwood, bracing trees, removing suckers and vertical water sprouts, removing competing vegetation (trees shading the apples or vegetation growing beneath apples), and mowing or aerating beneath trees.	CC-2 MA-4
VG-12	Complete DNA testing of apple trees to confirm age and varietal information.		CC-2 MA-4
VG-13	Preserve genetic diversity of the heirloom apple varietals present at HS by partnering with the USDA's Agricultural Research Service to implement cryopreservation of tree tissue in liquid nitrogen. At a later date, propagate more fruit trees using these samples.		CC-2 MA-4

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
VG-14	Exercise the minimum care for the HS apple orchards in cases where advanced care is not achievable. Minimum Care Recommendations for Apple Orchards include the following measures: ▪ Prioritize maintenance of older trees over younger trees. ▪ Ensure proper tree structure: Scaffold any leaning trees; they should be braced to ANSI standards, and all deadwood should be removed. ▪ Minimize competing vegetation: Remove trees or other vegetation that shade apples to ensure trees get eight hours of sun per day, and mow turf or mulch beneath trees (see VG-16). ▪ Limit stressors: Major stressors include encroaching vegetation, overstory shading, deer, and bears. Of these, encroaching vegetation is the worst-case scenario. See VG-17 for strategies to limit impact from bears. ▪ Replace trees, in kind when possible: Planting new apple trees is not recommended under current staffing levels due to the maintenance needed for apple trees versus that for other trees such as chestnuts. But replacement in kind is recommended in order for contributing apple trees to maintain the preservation standard.	The heirloom varieties of apple trees at HS are naturally heat tolerant and have survived for decades in extreme conditions. If possible, contact heirloom apple species experts to determine the several species and varieties at HS and to create an informed plan for their survival.	CC-2 MA-4 VG-8 VG-17

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
VG-15	Exercise advanced care of the HS apple orchards when possible. Advanced Care Recommendations for Apple Orchards: ▪ Winter pruning: During the dormant season, pruning stimulates growth of new tissue. Thinning and reduction pruning can be used to grow new replacement limbs or to replace scaffolding. It is important to never take more than 20 percent of live tissue in one year. Reshape trees to encourage growth of a balanced scaffold. ▪ Summer pruning: This is a partner to winter pruning. The goal is to remove water sprouts (upright shoots) and suckering at the base of the trees. Horizontal branching is encouraged to promote a more strongly anchored tree and to provide access to better light. ▪ Nutritional inputs: Having turf removed from drip line and planting nitrogen-fixing plants beneath trees or using organic fertilizers will give nutrients back to the trees and promote greater outputs. (See VG-16) ▪ Irrigation: To thrive, the apple trees need at least one inch of water per week from the end of blossom time through harvest. (See VG-18) ▪ Interpretation: With DNA testing, the park can determine the historically grown varieties of apples. The park can interpret the methods for making cider, preserving, and drying that were used with different varieties of apples. (See VG-12) ▪ Propagation: Use oldest trees to create seedling rootstock. Plan to replace (one for one) trees that die. This will require more maintenance and should be completed only if there is enough staff or a partner group that can help care for the apples. Trees need to be hand watered (if not on a drip irrigation system) for four to five months during the growing season for two to three years, and they must be weeded and shaped for the first five to ten years to achieve a good scaffold form.	The advanced care recommendations would require additional staff and/or funding. To carry out an advanced level of maintenance of the apple trees at HS would require an employee whose time is dedicated to orchard maintenance, which the park is currently lacking. The apple trees are a direct link to the period of significance, so their care should become a priority. The advanced care recommendations should be completed in addition to the minimum care recommendations (VG-13).	CC-2 MA-4

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
VG-16	Competing Vegetation and Mulching Currently, the apple trees have grass beneath them. The grass beneath the trees has been mowed regularly, which has likely extended the life of these trees. That being said, the turf grass will compete with the apple trees for water resources during dry months. The trees have been able to find a stasis between inputs and outputs. If you change inputs, such as mulching, then the tree will have more outputs. If mulching occurs, the staff will have to thin and pick fruit so that trees don't exhaust themselves and suffer from branch collapse due to the weight of the fruit. ▪ Good: Keep the grass below six inches by mowing once a month, which discourages pests, such as voles, from chewing the bark. ▪ Better: Remove turf from drip line and use compost or a mixture of compost and two to three inches of finely shredded bark mulch placed so that it does not touch the trunk. ▪ Best: Remove turf from drip line and plant a "green manure" such as clover or alfalfa, which are nitrogen-fixing plants. It is likely that these things would have been staggered with other crops, so one or both of these may have been historically planted beneath fruit trees.		CC-2 MA-4
VG-17	Impacts from Bears Bears tend to climb trees to get to fruit, which breaks branches and damages trees. Strategies to prevent or minimize bear damage with minimal budget/staffing levels include: ▪ Prune trees so that scaffold of tree is strong to decrease likelihood of branches breaking from bears climbing trees. Other strategies to implement if budget and/or staffing increases in the future: ▪ Pick fruit before bears discover the fruiting tree. ▪ Install solar-powered hot wires around the trunk and lower branches of apple trees to give a shock to the bear. The goal is to disrupt bear behavior. The bear's snout must touch the hotwire for it to experience a shock; otherwise, this technique will be ineffective.		CC-2 MA-4 NS-7 BS-11 VG-14

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
VG-18	Irrigation Strategies Optimally, to get quality fruit, the apple trees need at least a one-inch depth of water/ precipitation per week from the end of blossom time through harvest. Irrigation strategy for minimal budget/ staffing levels include: ▪ A four-wheel-drive pickup truck with a water bladder, which can be used to hand water each tree The following long-term strategy can be implemented if budget and/or staffing increases in the future: ▪ A water well with a solar pump that is attached to a drip irrigation system, with emitters running to each tree		CC-2 MA-4

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
Buildings and Structures			
BS-1	Follow the guidelines in the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.*		
BS-2	Revise the HS Historic District boundary to encompass recently located historic structures, the western portion of the Willie Gibbons Farmstead, and the Wallace Hensley Barn site.	Recently located historic structures include: ▪ A linear rock pile north of Hensley Perimeter Road, near the Willie Gibbons Farmstead ▪ A stacked stone pile located slightly northeast of the linear rock pile	AF-3
BS-3	Conduct complete HSRs for the farmsteads in HS to identify and/or verify contributing buildings at each farmstead. Within the HSRs, document historic structures and construction methods not previously documented by the CUGA Job Corps.	The lack of documentation before the interventions of the CUGA Job Corps has made identifying original material and prioritizing treatment based on historic fabric difficult if not impossible. Also challenging is that HS residents likely used both salvaged and new materials when some structures were originally built. Construction detailing, including log treatment and joinery, vary from building to building, making identification of the earliest construction methodology extremely difficult.	CC-4 BS-4 – BS-9 SS-4
BS-4	Conduct abbreviated HSRs for contributing features within each farmstead.		CC-4 BS-3 BS-5
BS-5	Use HSR documentation to provide consensus on sustainable replacement of parts and materials for buildings; compatible substitute materials should be considered as a more sustainable option.	The *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* guidelines recommend replacing material in kind as much as possible to maintain overall historic character. The guidelines recommend neither removing a major portion of the historic wood and replacing it with a new material to achieve a uniform appearance nor replacing it with a new material that does not match.	CC-4 BS-3 BS-4 BS-6 SS-4

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
BS-6	Provide emergency stabilization necessary for deteriorated or damaged buildings.	Emergency stabilization should be done before completing HSRs. Emergency stabilization should include the Willie Gibbons Chimney, Bert Hensley Hog Pen, and ruins at the Sherman Hensley Farmstead.	CC-4 BS-3 BS-7 BS-8 BS-9
BS-7	Willie Gibbons House Chimney ▪ Routinely remove any vegetation growing on or around the chimney. ▪ Control visitor access to the area immediately surrounding the chimney and provide notice of falling stones (signage, tour brochures, etc.). Explore viability of using straw at the ground level to reduce the risk of stones breaking on impact. ▪ Option 1: Maintain structure as a ruin, letting stones remain where they fall, allowing the controlled collapse. ▪ Option 2: Provide permanent stabilization for the chimney. Consider the benefits and drawbacks of stabilization given that this resource is a modern reconstruction.	A freestanding interior chimney remains at the site of the house at the Willie Gibbons Farmstead. A photograph taken in 1967 during the house's reconstruction shows no chimney present at the site, indicating that the current chimney is a modern reconstruction. The loss of the surrounding house has left the chimney without lateral support, and deterioration is being accelerated by ongoing exposure to water within the chimney stack. The decision to provide permanent stabilization for the chimney should weigh the value of a reconstructed feature against the significant cost involved.	BS-3 BS-4 BS-5 BS-6
BS-8	Emergency Stabilization for Bert Hensley Hog Pen: ▪ Prevent vegetation from growing against the structure. ▪ Install bracing at grade beneath the outward-leaning walls to hold the structure in its current position.	Given the significant deformation of the building, it is unlikely that the structure's lean could be corrected without high risk of collapse.	BS-3 BS-4 BS-5 BS-6
BS-9	Sherman Hensley Farmstead Ruins ▪ Remove on a regular basis vegetation growing in and around the ruins. ▪ Document the remaining building fabric and perform site archeology to document these and other buildings and farmstead features for which above-grade evidence has been lost.	Several courses of logs remain for two structures at the Sherman Hensley Farmstead, thought to be the corn crib and hen house. Currently, vegetation is growing in and around both ruins, and the lowest logs are partially buried in accumulated soil.	BS-3 BS-4 BS-5 BS-6
BS-10	Implement an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan in accordance with NPS standards to prevent insect damage.		CC-1
BS-11	Attach wood securely to the Liege Hensley House and/or use bear deterrent to prevent further bear damage.		NS-7 VG-17

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
BS-12	Due to predicted increased temperatures and more frequent storm events, ensure positive drainage around all building foundations.	Grading should be maintained to ensure that water is not allowed to pool near buildings. Any proposed ground-disturbing activities, such as site grading, must be archeologically cleared before starting work.	CC-3
BS-13a	Update the National Register nomination form to change the following items, which were previously listed as "contributing buildings and structures," to "contributing ruins": ▪ The Willie Gibbons House (CRIS# 7042) ▪ The Willie Gibbons Smokehouse (CRIS# 7045).	The Willie Gibbons House and Smokehouse burned in 2000 and are listed as buildings and structures, although they are currently ruins.	NR
BS-13b	Update the National Register nomination form to list Hensley Cemetery as a contributing site, and confirm the proper name.	"Hensley Graveyard" was previously listed on the NR as a contributing building or structure. The name associated with the feature in the CRIS database is "Hensley Cemetery" (CRIS# 7075).	NR
BS-13c	Confirm whether the Bert Hensley Hog Pen is a contributing or noncontributing feature.	The Bert Hensley Hog Pen was not listed in the 1980 NR, and it is assumed that the feature is noncontributing.	NR

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
Views and Vistas			
VV-1	Minimize the visibility of park staff vehicles in viewsheds.		
VV-2	If a new feature is confirmed north of the site and becomes part of the interpretive program, consider opening up a view off of the mountain from that site northward into Kentucky.		SO-1
VV-3	The views and vistas that were present during the period of significance contribute to the historic character of HS. Update the National Register nomination form to include the following views and vistas: ▪ View to Virginia ▪ View to Kentucky ▪ View east from the HS entry point to the fields, rolling hills, and trees ▪ View south to the Willie Gibbons Farmstead from Farm Road Trail ▪ View north to the Willie Gibbons Farmstead from Indian Rock Trail ▪ View southeast to the Lige Gibbons Farmstead ▪ View west within the cemetery ▪ View west to the Park Hensley House ▪ View west to the Bert Hensley Farmstead and fields ▪ View west to the Liege Hensley House		NR

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
Small-Scale Features			
SS-1	Evaluate all fencing to determine whether existing noncontributing fencing is necessary for current park practices or can be removed. Where appropriate, remove noncontributing fencing to reduce maintenance operations. See Treatment Plan (Figure 5-1).		MA-1 CL-1 SS-2
SS-2	Evaluate the current usage of noncontributing barbed-wire fencing that was implemented during the Job Corps period and used for farming demonstration purposes. Remove this fencing if it is no longer necessary for current park practices.	The oral histories indicate that wire fencing was used sparingly, primarily in the later years, so some of the barbed-wire fencing may be contributing.	SS-1
SS-3	After noncontributing fencing is removed, indicate paths through site using mowing and/or bushhogging.		MA-2
SS-4	Use HSR documentation to provide consensus on replacement hardware (latches, hinges, etc.) for gates and fences.		BS-3 BS-5 CC-5
SS-5	Stabilize and repair the eroding land bridge near the Willie Gibbons Farmstead.		CC-3 CC-5 AF-4
SS-6	Obtain imaging of headstones to document the names on the gravestones within the cemetery.	According to Mary Striegel, of the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training's (NCPTT) Materials Conservation Program, several methods are available for documenting headstones in place, including photography, laser technology, and 3-D photogrammetry. The easiest method is to photograph using a photographic reflector at a 45-degree angle from the sunlight. The photo should be taken directly in front of the headstone at a high dpi setting. If more contrast is needed for legibility, wet the stone and retake the photo. The only substance that is recommended for use on the headstone is water. Flour may damage the headstone. The process of taking a rubbing of the headstone is not recommended. The photographer may include a ruler for scale and a chalkboard if there are notes regarding location that should accompany the photo. Further, GPS may be used to locate graves in a database.	SS-7 SS-8
SS-7	Establish a working relationship with NCPTT to obtain further resources and information about the appropriate and specific measures to protect, preserve, document, and restore damaged headstones in the cemetery. Document in place the broken headstone located in the southeast corner of the cemetery. Remove and preserve the headstone off-site after it has been documented.	The broken headstone has already been moved from its original location and is not currently attached to a grave site.	SS-6 SS-8

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
SS-8	Use geophysical techniques to determine whether there are graves located east of the current boundary; the 1939 aerial imagery shows a fence line that extends eastward to the nearby (existing) north-south fence.		SS-6 SS-7
SS-9	Relocate cut-stone fire pit near the Finley Hensley Farmstead.		
SS-10	Remove triangular structure located south of the Bert Hensley Farmstead, and remove the brush pile located north of the Bert Hensley Farmstead.		MA-5
SS-11	Keep the demonstration chimney near the Park Hensley Farmstead for interpretive purposes.		
SS-12	Signage should be appropriate in appearance, size, and material based on the applicable policies and NPS standards (Director's Order 52C)		
SS-13	Maintain millstones and hay rake behind the Willie Gibbons Farmstead and hay rake near the Lige Gibbons Farmstead.		
SS-14	Update the National Register nomination form to include the following small-scale resources as contributing features: ▪ Grave markers in Hensley Cemetery ▪ Fences and gates found in historic locations ▪ The Willie Gibbons retaining wall ▪ The unidentified structure near the Sherman Hensley Farmstead ▪ The linear rock pile north of Hensley Perimeter Road ▪ The rock weir located north and east of the linear rock pile		NR

Treatment Recommendation		Supporting Information, as Needed	Related Tasks
Archeological Resources			
AR-1	Use LIDAR technology to locate sites that were undetectable through field verification. The Mill Site, in particular, might be visible using LIDAR. It is unlikely that the unidentified structure could be detected due to vegetative growth over many decades. LIDAR might also reveal other patterns in the landscape not currently known or inventoried.		
AR-2	Protect and preserve archeological resources in place.		
AR-3	Conduct archeological research for the Wallace Hensley barn site, Oscar Hensley House site, Gillis Lee House site, Sherman Hensley Farmstead, unidentified structure, and stacked stone walls.		BS-2
AR-4	Use mitigation techniques to control erosion if excessive rainfall has exposed archeological resources.	Because the frequency and intensity of rainfall is projected to increase, the risk of erosion, flooding, and damage to archeological resources is also projected to increase. The Kentucky Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Field Guide recommends the following actions: ▪ Preserve existing vegetation ▪ Divert upland runoff around exposed soil ▪ Mulch or cover bare soil immediately ▪ Use sediment barriers to trap soil in runoff ▪ Protect slopes/channels from gullying	CC-3 SS-5
AR-5	All sites listed in the National Register nomination as contributing and all noncontributing buildings and structures are considered potential archeological resources. Additionally, all small-scale features listed as contributing are considered potential archeological resources. All archeological resources should be updated in the National Register as contributing features.	Conduct archeological research to determine the integrity of archeological resources within the Settlement. Update the NR accordingly.	NR

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Cultural Landscape Report
Hensley Settlement

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park
Bell County, KY

Hensley Settlement Treatment Plan

suzanne turner ASSOCIATES
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Sources

1. Aerial Photography, Google Earth, 2018.
2. Boundaries and GIS Data, National Park Service 2018.
3. 1939 Aerial Photography, CUGA Accession 309, Catalog CUGA 5585

Drawn By

Ashley Braquet, ArcMap and Illustrator, 2020.

Notes

Buildings, trails, streams, etc. are drawn as seen on the 2018 aerial. A base map was created in ArcGis to acquire contours and base data. Then the aerial was scaled in AutoCad and traced. All color linework completed in Illustrator.

Legend

1. Willie Gibbons Farmstead
2. Grant Hensley Farmstead
3. Lige Gibbons Farmstead
4. Hensley Cemetery
5. Brush Mountain School House
6. Finley Hensley Farmstead
7. Bert Hensley Farmstead
8. Park Hensley Farmstead
9. Liege Hensley Farmstead
10. Wallace Hensley Farmstead
11. Sherman Hensley Farmstead
12. Gillis Lee Farmstead
13. Oscar Hensley Farmstead
14. Park Maintenance Buildings
15. Radio Repeater

- CUGA Boundary
- State Line
- Hensley Settlement Historic District
- Stream/Creek
- Topography
- Building
- Gravel Road
- Grassed Road (Major Circulation)
- Grassed Path (Secondary Circ.)
- Trail Circulation
- Orchard (2010 GIS)
- Trees
- Tree Line
- Open Field
- Existing Fence
- 1939 Fence
- 1939 Major Circulation
- 1939 Minor Circulation

N

FIGURE 5–2. Hensley Settlement Treatment Plan, Source: STA

Appendix A

TIMELINE OF EVENTS RELATED TO HENSLEY SETTLEMENT

1845	C. and R.M. Bales, two brothers from Rose Hill, Virginia just across the Kentucky/Virginia state line, were granted rights to the area at the top of Brush Mountain by Gov. William Owsley (1844-1848).[1]
1861–1865	American Civil War. During the war, Confederate forces originally occupied Cumberland Gap. Later almost all trees were removed from the landscape to provide better visibility. On Sept. 9th, 1863, Union forces overtook the Confederate forces and gained control of the gap, which they maintained for the remainder of the war.
1867, Aug. 1	Josh Bell County was formed from portions of Harlan and Knox Counties.[2]
1872	Josh Bell County changed to Bell County.[3]
1877, Mar.	Jack Hensley's daughter (Bert Hensley's sister) was born. She later married Willie Gibbons.[4]
1879	R. M. Bales ran for Virginia State Senate, to represent Scott, Wise, and Lee counties. "Mr. Bales was a prominent citizen of the Rose Hill District and was well known by some of the older living citizens today" [1939].[5]
1894	Lige Gibbons was born at Martins Fork.[6]
Late 1890s	There is no information providing the precise start and end dates of the John Nichols lease. It is known that he leased the land from Bales sometime in the 1890s.
1903, May	The lease of the John Nichols family of Union County, TN ended with the purchase of the land by Burton Hensley, Sr. [7]
	Sherman Hensley arrived at the plateau of Brush Mountain that would become Hensley Flats. Upon Hensley's arrival, the site was occupied by John Nichols and his families including "a bunch of boys at home", who was living there on a 5-year lease, and Nichols' two sons-in-laws, Bill Satterfield and Frank Connley.[8] Sherman Hensley states that "Nichols' place is closer to the Sand Cave, they're east, Gibbons' place."[9] Sherman occupied the former Nichols cabin upon his arrival, until he constructed a larger cabin for his family.
	"Barton (sic) Hensley, Sr. bought the five hundred acres and redistributed it among his

1 Kleber, John E., ed. *The Kentucky Encyclopedia.* Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 1992, 426.

2 Kleber, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* 69.

3 Kleber, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* 68.

4 Lige Gibbons and Mrs. Willie Gibbons, interview by Hobart G. Cawood, March 25, 1960, Oral History Tape Number 2, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

5 *"Lee Co. Campaign Recalls 1879." Middlesboro (KY) Daily News, August 22, 1939, Accessed October 7,2017. Newspapers.com.*

6 Lige Gibbons and Mrs. Willie Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 2.

7 Kleber, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* 426.

8 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, and Lige Gibbons, interview by Hobart G. Cawood, March 25, 1960, Oral History Tape Number 1, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

9 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, and Lige Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 1.

family."[10] Actually, Hensley distributed the land through a combination of sales and gifts over the course of several years. Using the boundary survey included in this report, the 500 acres was divided as follows:

- 100 acres – purchased by Andrew Jackson Hensley
- 38.2 acres – purchased by Sherman Hensley
- 21 acres – Share 1, Silas Hensley
- 21 acres – Share 2, Ruth Witt [Ruth Hensley Witt. Marriage to Robert Fulton Witt on Nov. 27th, 1890. 1900 census she was married and living on Upper Martins Fork – possibly on land owned by her father, Burton Hensley, Sr. By 1920, she was widowed and had moved to Rose Hill, VA].
- 21 acres – Share 3, Floyd Hensley (to R.F. Witt). [The notation on the deed map refers to the transfer of the land from Floyd Hensley to R.F. Witt, whether by gift or purchase].
- 21 acres – Share 4, Carter Hensley
- 21 acres – Share 5, Marty Hensley's heirs
- 21 acres – Share 6, Albert Hensley
- 21 acres – Share 7, Jane Osborn [Amanda Jane Hensley. Married James Robert Osborne on Mar 18, 1899]
- 21 acres – Share 8, Lily Hensley [Lillie]
- 21 acres – Share 9, Melissa Crider [Melissa Hensley Saylor Crider]
- 21 acres – Share 10, Patti Smith
- 21 acres – Share 11, Emily Edwards [Emaline J "Emily" Hensley. Died July 1899, same month and year as her husband in Lexington, KY – Robert W. "Bob" Edwards. Their oldest child was 19 and youngest was 10.]
- 21 acres – Share 12, Nicey Hensley [Eunice Ann]
- 21 acres – Share 13, Wilson Hensley
- 21 acres – Share 14, Fielden Hensley
- 21 acres – Share 15, Nancy Hensley, to Fielden Hensley [The assumption is that Nancy Hensley transferred her share to Fielden Hensley, by gift or sale].
- 21 acres – Share 16, Margaret Middleton's heirs [Margaret died in 1894 in Hurst, KY, a village in Breathitt County]
- 25.8 acres estimated - R. F. Witt

The acreage above equals exactly 500 acres. There might have been more acreage in the R. F. Witt sale, but the number of acres is not labeled on the distribution map.

The map showing the division of property shows Shillalah Creek, Martins Fork, Chadwell Gap, and at the far west corner of Sherman Hensley's parcels – a "Still house."

Melissa Crider was the daughter of William Burton Hensley, Sr. Her first marriage was to Gilbert Howard Saylor in 1888. After his death, she married Albert G. Crider. This is important as the Saylor's are listed in the 1910 and 1920 censuses living on Brush Mountain Road, Brush Mountain, Bell County, KY. They are on the same census sheets as the Hensleys and Gibbons. She was born in 1872 in Harlan, KY and died in 1952 in Connersville, IN.

10 Kleber, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* 426.

1903–1904	Through the winter of 1903 and spring of 1904, various family members of the Hensley and Gibbons families built houses in preparation for the move to the community.[11] Ian Hensley and Fielden Hensley moved into houses that were already on site.[12]
1904	Willie and Nancy Gibbons moved to Hensley Settlement from a home on Martins Fork.[13] Lige Gibbons recalled that it was February of 1904 when the family moved to Brush Mountain from Martins Fork.[14]
1904	During Sherman Hensley's first spring on the mountain, he lived in the former home of John Nichols, who leased land from the Bales. The home had a fenced homestead and garden, which allowed Sherman to begin farming as soon as the ground thawed. [15,16]
1904	Sherman Hensley arrived with around nineteen hogs and immediately turned them out into the woods to forage and roam.[17] Hog types were Berkshire, Black Berkshire, and Porinsinet.[18]
1904	Sherman Hensley immediately began killing "turkey, pheasants, and so on, squirrels and coons, possums, polecats, and so on, anything, if it were a furry animal, why I'd get his hide and sell it."[19]
1904	Salesman brought fruit tree saplings from Stark Brothers Nursery, and the families also bought some at Rose Hill Nursery on Davies Creek in Ewing on the Virginia side of the mountain.[20]
1904	Wallace Hensley was born to Sherman and Nicey Ann Hensley on May 23rd, 1904.[21]
1906–1908	Two water driven grist mills were constructed between 1906 to circa 1908. They were not high-volume mills as water quantity and velocity was not adequate for large volumes of grinding. The mills belonged to all the residents and were undershot mill wheels, instead of the larger overshot wheels in mills off the mountain.[22]
1906–1908	The two mills were located "…in the head of Shillaley (sic) Creek and the other one in the head of Martins Fork." They were used by everyone in the community. They built small mill ponds with log dams in order to retain enough water to run the mills.[23]
1907–1909	Sherman Hensley introduced sheep to the top of Brush Mountain. He bought a Southdown buck and had a Merino for their white wool.[24]

11 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, and Lige Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 1.

12 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, and Lige Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 1.

13 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, and Lige Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 1.

14 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, and Lige Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 1.

15 Sherman Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, July 16, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 23, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

16 Sherman Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, July 16, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 24, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

17 Sherman Hensley, Oral History Tape Number 24.

18 Sherman Hensley, Oral History Tape Number 24.

19 Sherman Hensley, Oral History Tape Number 24.

20 Sherman Hensley, Oral History Tape Number 24.

21 Wallace Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 14, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

22 Jean Haskell, Alison Blanton, and Edward Speer, "Hensley Settlement Cultural Landscape Report (Draft)," Johnson City: East Tennessee State University Center for Appalachian Studies and Research Services, 2003, 43.

23 Sherman Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, July 30, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 31, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

24 Sherman Hensley, Oral History Tape Number 24.

1908	First school that Hensley/Gibbons families attended was at Chimney Rocks.[25] Then the school was moved to Chadwell's Gap. Then moved into the community interior to its present location.[26]
1912	The Brush Mountain School (the first school) started approximately in 1912. Before that, school was held at the home of Barney Thompson, who was a neighbor of the families.[27]
1912–1914	Lige Gibbons estimated that there were 175 to 200 people living at Hensley at the peak population of the community. This seems like an over-estimate based on his related comment that there were 47 children in school at the time.[28]
1913	Lige Gibbons and his brothers saw one deer, the only one they ever saw on the mountain, from their barn loft. The deer came right up to the barn.[29]
1913	Mr. Herbert Hensley, youngest son of Sherman Hensley, was born.[30]
1915	Sherman Hensley built and moved into a new house that he constructed that year.[31] Oral histories state that this house was within the main settlement proper, and that later after other settlers moved off the mountain, that he would move into houses that were in better condition.
1917–1918	United States participated in World War I beginning in April of 1917. Armistice was declared on Nov. 11th, 1918. Lige Gibbons from Hensley Settlement participated in the war.
1918–1919	Spanish Flu pandemic affected the world. Wallace Hensley stated that several residents were sickened during the flu pandemic, but no Hensley residents died.[32]
1920, Mar. 15	Lige Gibbons was married by Judge Looper in London, KY.[33]
1920–1933	Congress passed the 18th amendment to the constitution in 1920, beginning the era of prohibition. The 21st amendment, passed in 1933, repealed the 18th amendment and ended prohibition.
1920s	The blacksmith shop is constructed by Willie Gibbons.[34]
1922–1943	The Chadwell Gap Mine was operational. The mine provided employment for a number of setters in the Hensley community.
1925	"The community had reached its apex, with about one hundred inhabitants, a school . . . and about forty other buildings."[35]

25 William E. Cox, *Hensley Settlement: A Mountain Community,* Cumberland Gap, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1977, 30.

26 Haskell, Blanton, and Speer, "Hensley Settlement Cultural Landscape Report (Draft)," 41.

27 Wallace Hensley and Stella Hensley (Mrs. Wallace Hensley), interview by Lloyd Abelson, August 14, 1964, Oral History Tape Number 3, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

28 Lige Gibbons and Mrs. Willie Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 2.

29 Lige Gibbons and Mrs. Willie Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 2.

30 Herbert Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, May 28, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 5, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

31 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, Lige Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 1.

32 Wallace Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 13, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

33 Lige Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 5, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 10, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

34 Jess Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, March 1, 1971, Oral History Tape Number 77, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

35 Kleber, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* 426.

1926/1927	Stella Callahan Hensley began teaching at Hensley. She estimated that she had eighteen to twenty students at the time. At the time when she started teaching, she was 18 years old.[36]
1927	Wallace Hensley married Stella Callahan at Cumberland Gap. He and Stella had no children.[37]
1930–1931	A two-year drought hits Kentucky. Thomas Karl notes that this was the longest period of drought since records had been kept. The drought was accompanied by above normal temperatures, which broke many high temperature records at the time.[38]
1933–35	Wallace Hensley, son of Sherman Hensley recalled one of the worst fires on the mountain. "That fire come in and it got my fencing. And the barn burn up and house or two burn up. Couldn't do nothing, couldn't do nothing with it."[39] In Gilbert Hensley's oral history interview of 1970, he stated that "I've seed big fires up there."[40] However, he did not state what year they occurred, just that there were several of them. It could be that there were a series of fires. Jess Gibbons in his interview in 1970 with park historian Robert W. Munck, states that "Yeah, I remember one fire back in…well, it was in the thirties, sometime. In the spring of the year. And it burned up over a lot of the fields here and burned a lot of their fencing up. It come from off of Brownie's Creek."[41] In 1971, when asked if he could remember any special fires at the settlement, he stated: "I couldn't tell you what year it was, but it was in the spring of the year. It started off on Brownie's Creek. Then it got in this mountain and then just burnt all over the top of this mountain. Burned a lot of their fences up, burned an orchard up where my daddy had got, I guess, maybe fifty or seventy-five bearing peach trees. Got in there and the grass was growed up through the summer, you know, and it was bad with weeds and grasses. It burned all over it and killed all of his orchard out."[42]
1935 era	The chestnut blight arrived in the area of the Hensley Settlement.
1936	Another severe drought affected Kentucky.[43]
1940, Jun. 11	The Cumberland Gap National Historical Park was authorized by act of Congress.[44]
1940s	The State of Kentucky began purchasing land "in the 1940s as part of the lands to become part of the newly-created Cumberland Gap National Historical Park."[45]
1940	Moonshine was produced on and off by residents at Hensley Settlement until about 1940.[46]

36 Wallace Hensley and Stella Hensley (Mrs. Wallace Hensley), Oral History Tape Number 3.

37 Wallace Hensley, Oral History Tape Number 14.

38 Kleber, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* 207.

39 Wallace Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, June 20, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 11, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

40 Gilbert Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, September 3, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 58, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

41 Jess Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, September 10, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 59, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

42 Jess Gibbons, interview by Robert W. Munck, February 18, 1971, Oral History Tape Number 67, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

43 Kleber, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* 207.

44 "An Act to Provide for the Establishment of Cumberland Gap National Historical Park in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia," 76th Congress, Third Session, Public Laws—Chs. 302-304: H. R. 9394, Public No. 586, Library of Congress, June 11, 1940, accessed July 23, 2020, https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/76th-congress/session-3/c76s3ch304.pdf ,262.

45 Cox, *Hensley Settlement: A Mountain Community*, i.

46 Lige Gibbons, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 2.

1941	Park Hensley left Brush Mountain and Hensley Settlement.[47]
1941–1945	Following the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the United States entered World War II. War industries, especially coal mines, resulted in employment opportunities for many people in Appalachia. Special status was given to coal miners that allowed the workers to defer conscription so they could provide a critical commodity in high demand during the war. Coal was important as a fuel in the steel and iron industries.
1947	Only three families remained at Hensley Settlement.[48]
1949	Sherman Hensley saw the last wild turkey at Hensley Settlement approximately in 1947.[49] This was also the year when Lige Gibbons left Hensley.[50]
1950	An interview with Wallace and Stella Hensley indicated that a large fire burned "three or four thousand panel" of split rail fence. It also burned down their barn.[51]
1951	Sherman Hensley left the plateau atop Brush Mountain.[52] By the time Hensley left the settlement, approximately 500 acres had been cleared.[53]
1952	The blacksmith shop was destroyed in a large fire.[54]
1955	The park [National Park Service] acquired the land.[55]
1956, Dec. 31	Willie Gibbons died.[56]
1959, July 4	Cumberland Gap National Historical Park was dedicated on this date.[57]
1961	The Area Redevelopment Administration (ARA) was passed by Congress at the behest of President Kennedy.[58]
1963	"After a devastating flood struck Appalachia in March 1963, Kennedy moved the region to the top of the ARA's agenda. By executive order he created an expanded President's Appalachian Regional Committee and renamed it a commission under the chairmanship of Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr."[59]
1964, April 24	"Determined to advance his own program as well as carrying on Kennedy's legacy, Johnson declared 'war' on the causes of poverty in America and made Appalachia a central theater of that war by launching his crusade from the porch of a former miner's house in Martin County, Kentucky."[60]

47 Park Hensley, interview by Robert W. Munck, August 13, 1970, Oral History Tape Number 43, transcript, Hensley Oral History Tape Collection, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Middlesboro, KY.

48 Kleber, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* 426.

49 Sherman Hensley, Mrs. Willie Gibbons, and Lige Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 1.

50 Lige Gibbons and Mrs. Willie Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 2.

51 Wallace Hensley and Stella Hensley (Mrs. Wallace Hensley), Oral History Tape Number 3.

52 Kleber, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* 426.

53 Fred Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," National Park Service Technical Information Collection, Cumberland Gap, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, n.d., 2.

54 Jess Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 77.

55 Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," 2.

56 Lige Gibbons and Mrs. Willie Gibbons, Oral History Tape Number 2.

57 Kleber, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* 426.

58 Angela R. Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, 1922–1972," PhD diss., Middle Tennessee State University, 2015, 211.

59 John Alexander Williams, *Appalachia: A History.* Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2002, 341.

60 Williams, *Appalachia: A History,* 342.

1964 The NPS and the Bureau of Public Roads submitted a report to Congress that recommended the creation of the Allegheny Parkway, which would have been a 632-mile national parkway from Harper's Ferry National Park, through the Appalachian Mountains, and ending at Cumberland Gap.[61] This proposed project was never begun.

1965 "The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) was established in 1965."[62]

1965 "The 'Gap Job Corps Conservation Center' was established within the park. The plan for restoration was enlarged but not to include the entire Settlement."[63]

1966 The park, with the aid of the Kentucky Job Corps [Gap Job Corps Conservation Center] program begins restoration of Hensley Settlement.[64]

1967–1968 After the land was acquired and consolidated under NPS ownership, the Cumberland Gap Job Corps was engaged to repair and reconstruct the architectural suite of buildings at Hensley. Jess Gibbons, a former resident of Hensley, was present and consulted on the work of the Job Corps. (A04 0040332129 SOW).

1968 "…ambitious plans were made for the Settlement. The Interpretive Prospectus was initially written with discussion of a large staff there and vast improvements in the road up the mountain to improve access. Also, large amounts of furnishings were bought from local farmers to use in and around the homes."[65]

1968 "Jesse [sic] Gibbons and Hubert Thomas became farmer demonstrators at the Settlement."[66]

1969 In April, the Gap Job Corps [Conservation] Center closed, thus ending a period when much physical and interpretive work had occurred at Hensley.[67]

1971 The oral history project was completed, wherein park historians interviewed former residents, capturing their memories of their lives at Hensley. These interviews provided important information related to the timeline of the Settlement, crops grown in the gardens, fields, and orchards, health issues, and extensive information about education at the Settlement. That time period was shortly after the last resident, Sherman Hensley, left Hensley Flats.[68]

Interview dates and information:

1st & 2nd interview (1964) – park historian, Hobart Cawood

3rd interview (1964) – chief historian, Lloyd Abelson

4th interview (1967) – historian, George Davidson

(1970-71) – park historian, Robert Munck

1974 Chester Thomas, son of Hubert Thomas, was hired to continue his father's work at Hensley as a farmer demonstrator. Unfortunately, Jess Gibbons suffered a heart attack which then limited his involvement with the farmer demonstrator program.[69]

61 Sirna, "Recreating Appalachia: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, 1922–1972," 219.

62 Williams, *Appalachia: A History,* 10.

63 Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," 1.

64 Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," 1.

65 Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," 1-2.

66 Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," 2.

67 Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," 2.

68 Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," 2.

69 Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," 2.

1975	A sorghum stir was held at Hensley as a special event. This involved cutting or obtaining sorghum cane, grinding it, boiling the liquid, and skimming off impurities during the sorghum molasses process.[70]
Late 1970s	A perimeter road was constructed at Hensley, which diverted traffic outside of the core of the Settlement.[71]
1980, Jan. 8	Hensley Settlement was listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
2000, Nov. 18	*The Daily News* reported that the Willie Gibbons House and smokehouse had burned to the ground.[72]
2010	The final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement was completed.
2016	Hensley Settlement was "identified as a fundamental resource and value" in the park's *2016 Foundation Document*.

70 Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," 2.

71 Boyles, "A Brief History of the Restoration of Hensley Settlement," 2.

72 "Willie Gibbons House and Smokehouse Briefing on Reconstruction of Historic Structures." CUGA Archives Manuscript on file. Middlesboro, KY: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, December 28, 2000.

Appendix B
ANCESTRY GRAPHICS

Further research was completed on the Hensley family as well as others that lived on Brush Mountain. This included the Gibbons, Lees, Cupps, Wilders, Saylors, and Miracles.

When NPS acquired the property in 1950, a survey was completed. This survey shows that some of the property was sold to the Kentenia Corp, which was a land company that leased land to developers for coal mining and timber.[1] Other property holders included Sherman Hensley, William Gibbons, Bert Hensley, William Gillis Lee, Clarence Smith, and T.C. Adams. STA was unable to locate information on Clarence Smith or T.C. Adams, however, ancestry Census data was helpful in understanding how the other families fit in with the Hensleys. For example, the Lees were descended from the Cupps, Miracles, Saylors and Wilders.

1 Kleberg, John E., Ed. "Kentenia Corporation." *The Kentucky Encyclopedia.* Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky, 1992. 487.

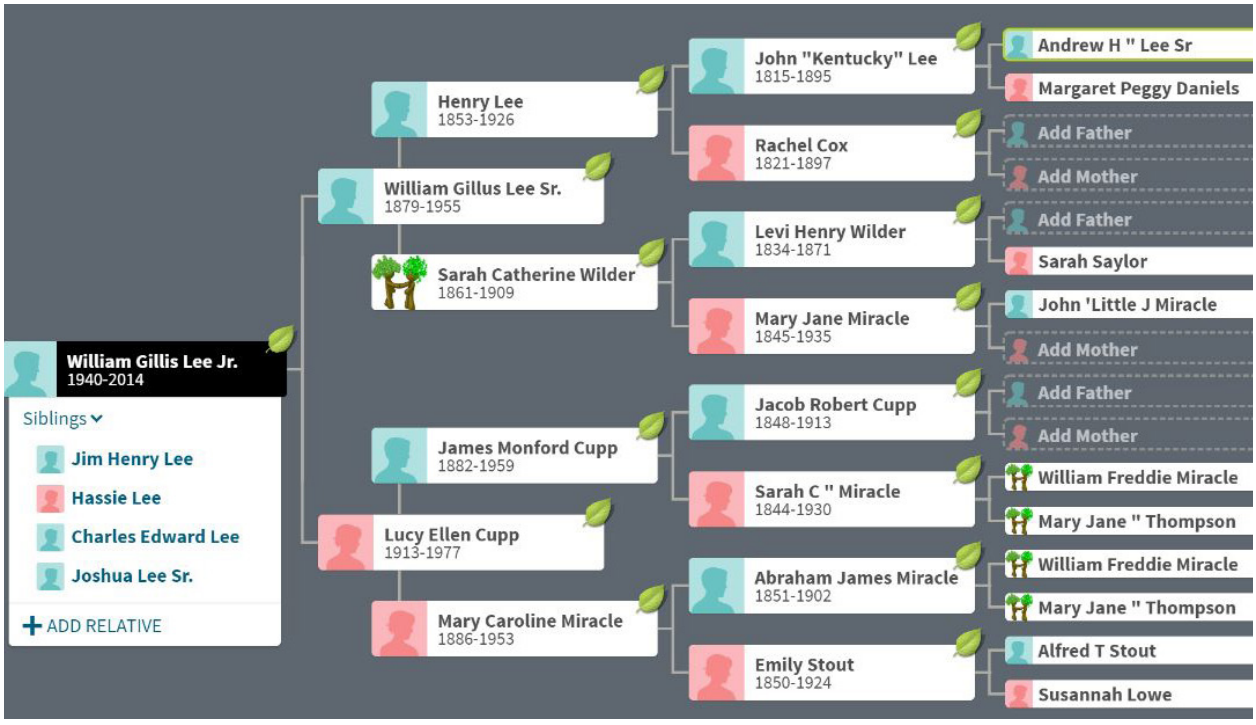


FIGURE B–1. Family Tree of William Gillis Lee Jr. The Lees obtained the property east of Sherman Hensley, and owned land on Brush Mountain in 1950. Source: Ancestry.com

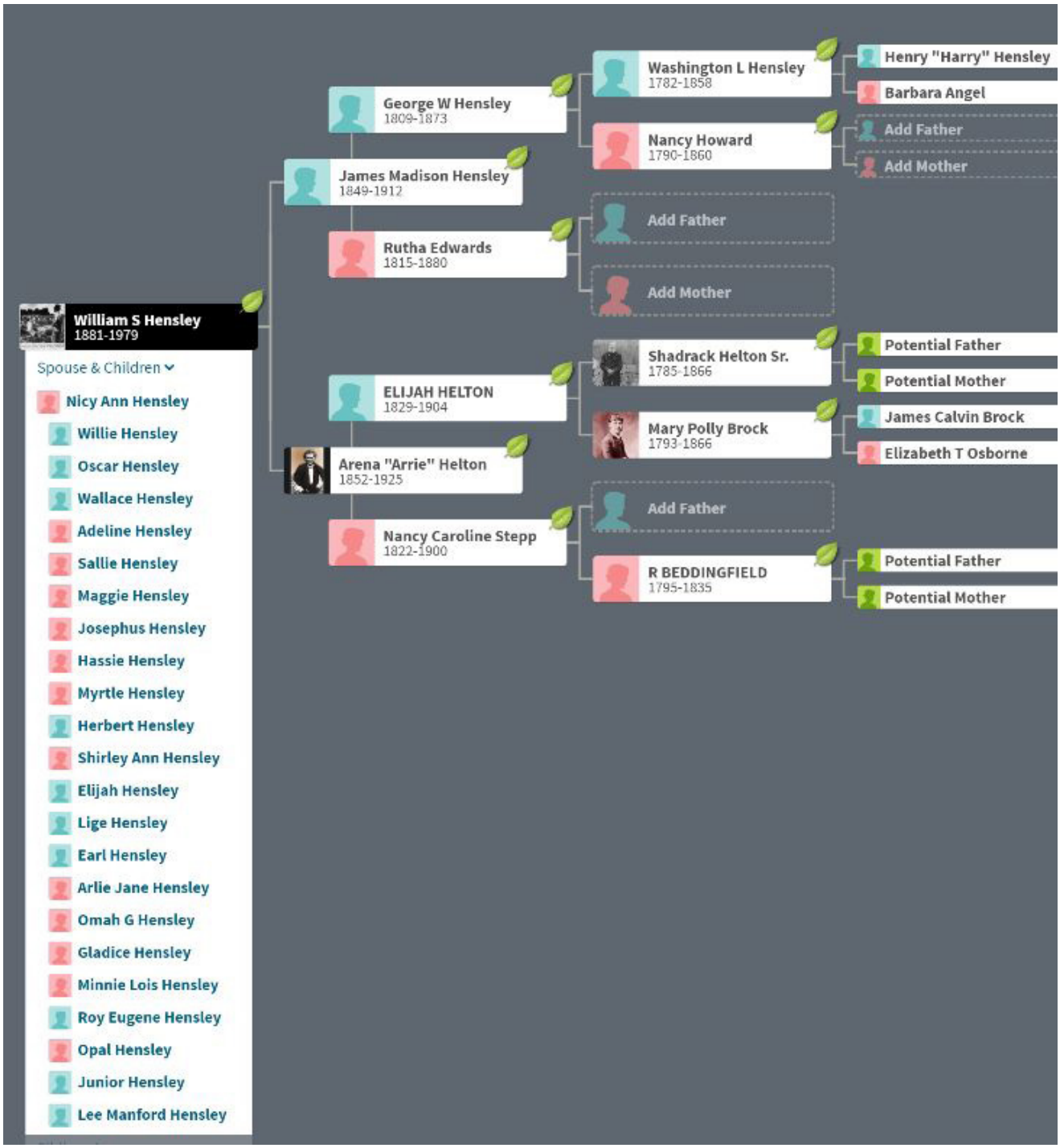


FIGURE B–2. Family Tree of William Sherman Hensley. Source: Ancestry.com

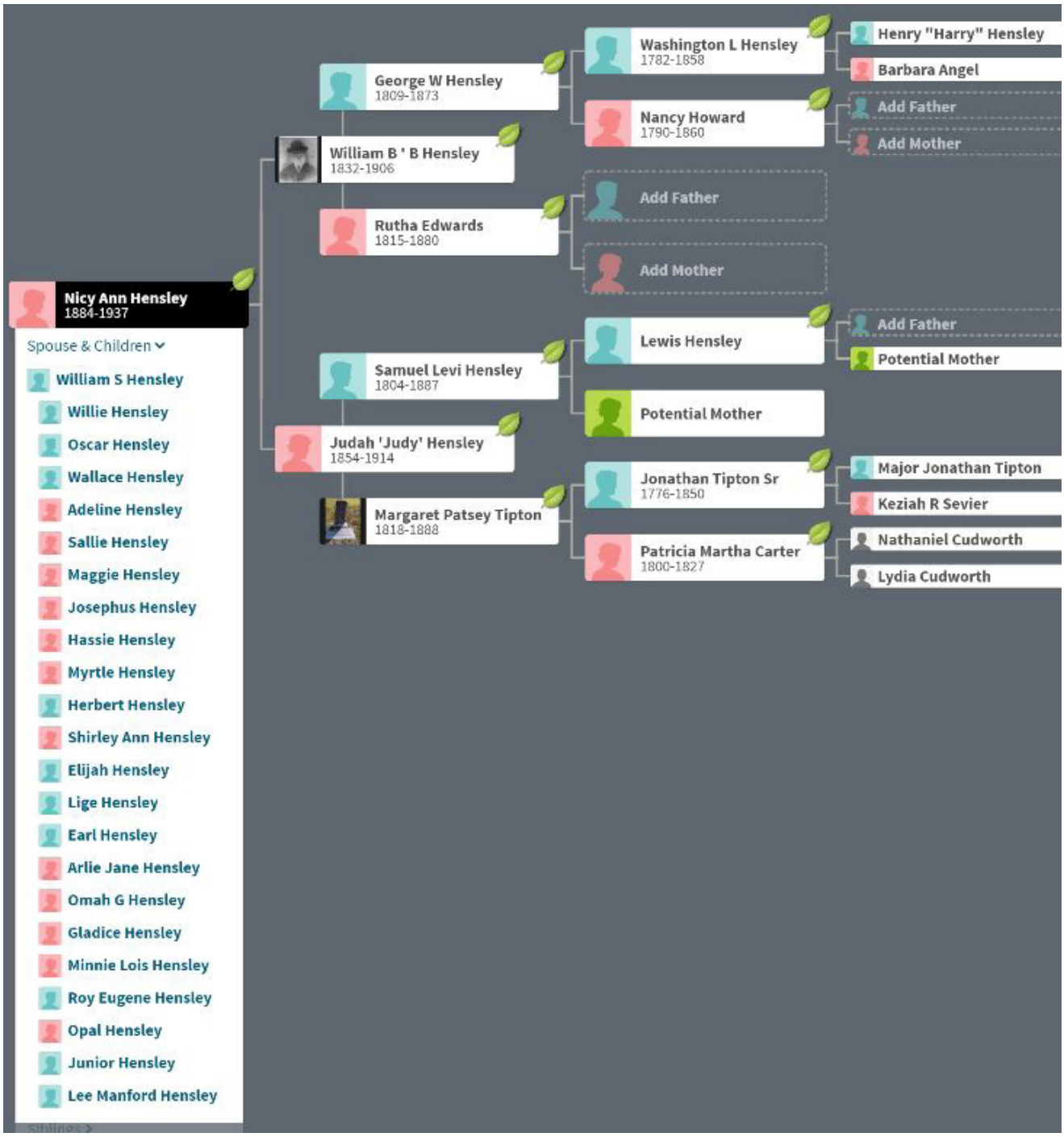


FIGURE B–3. Family Tree of Nicey Ann Hensley. Source: Ancestry.com

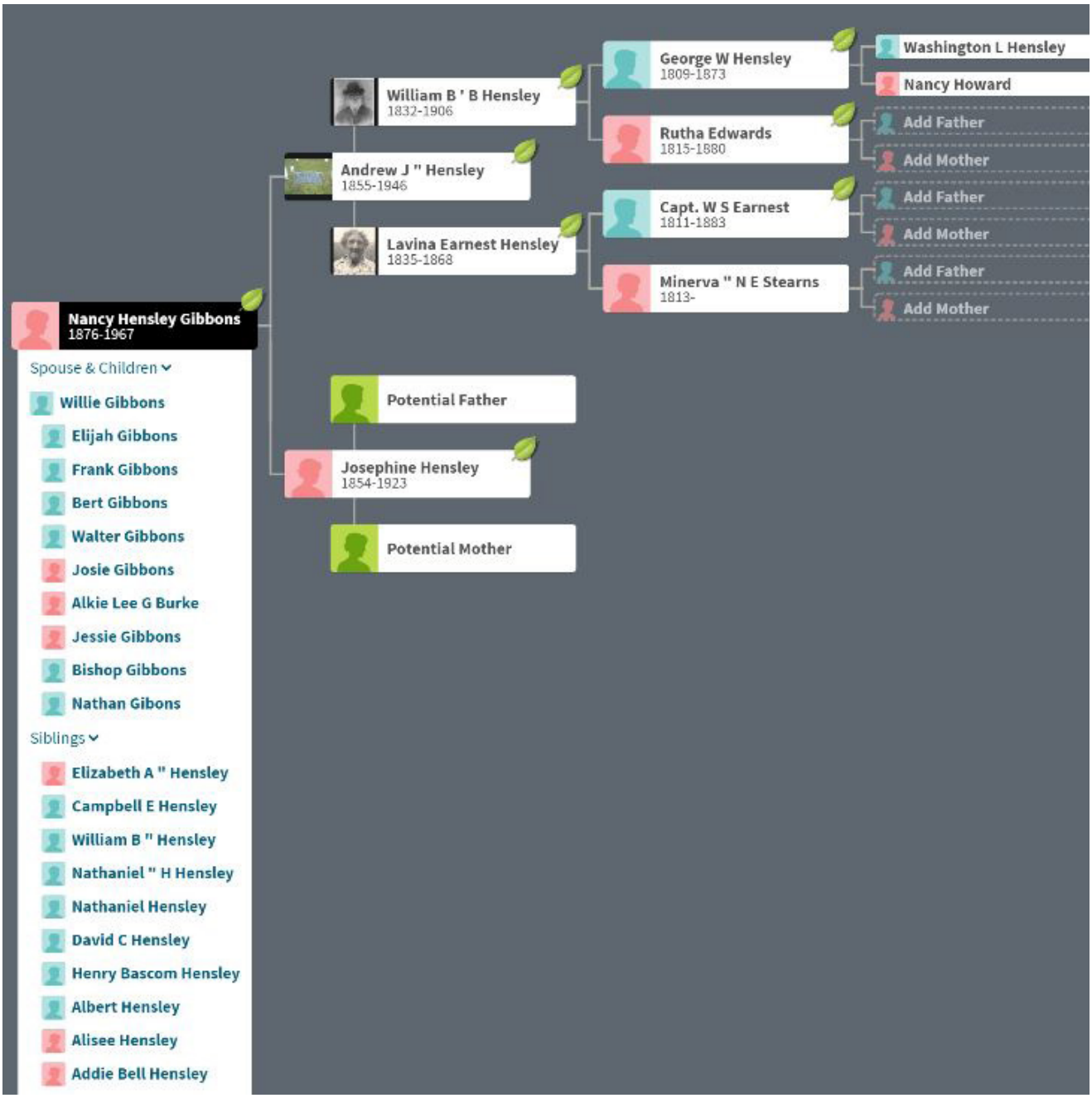
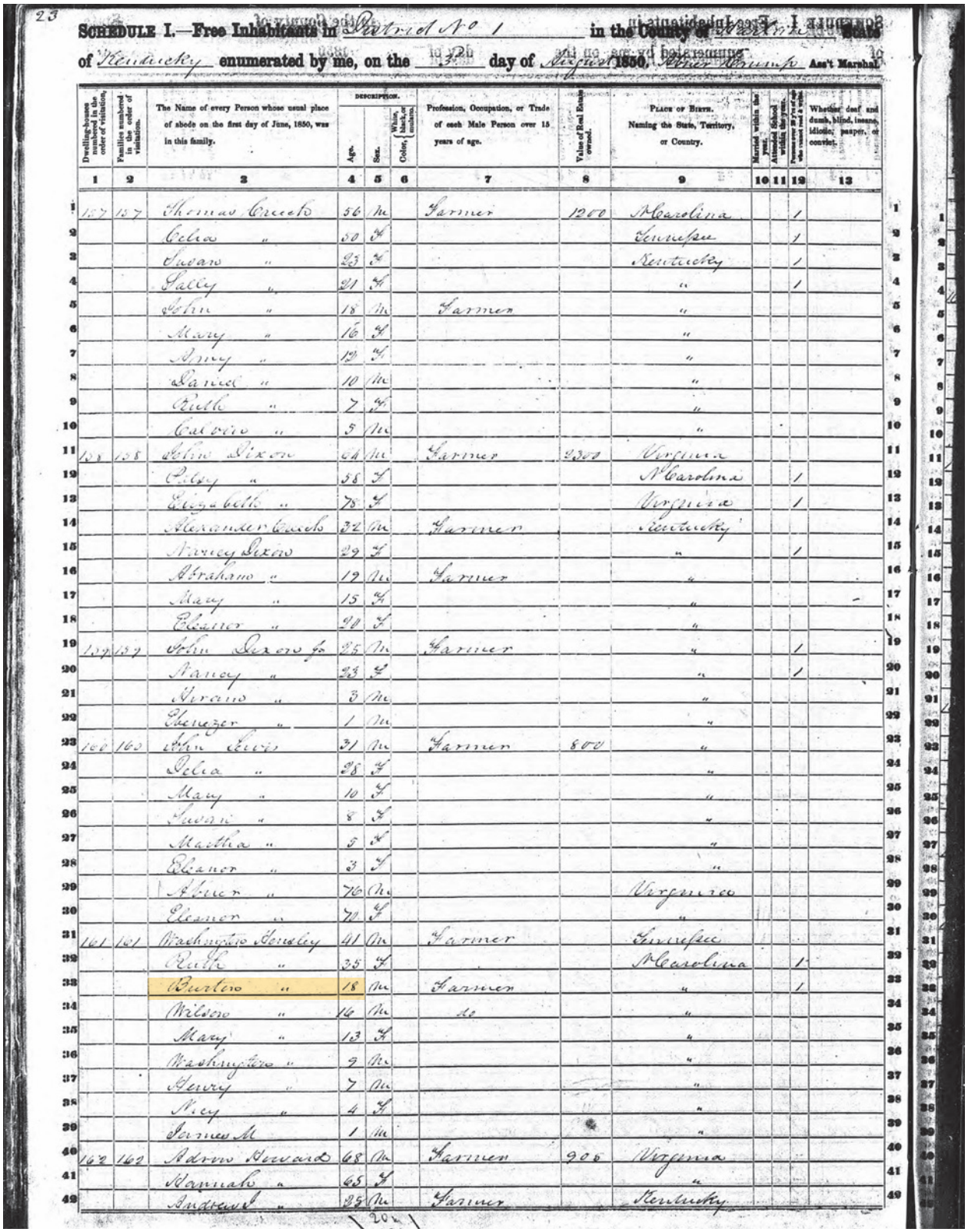


FIGURE B–4. Family Tree of Nancy Hensley Gibbons. **Source: Ancestry.com**



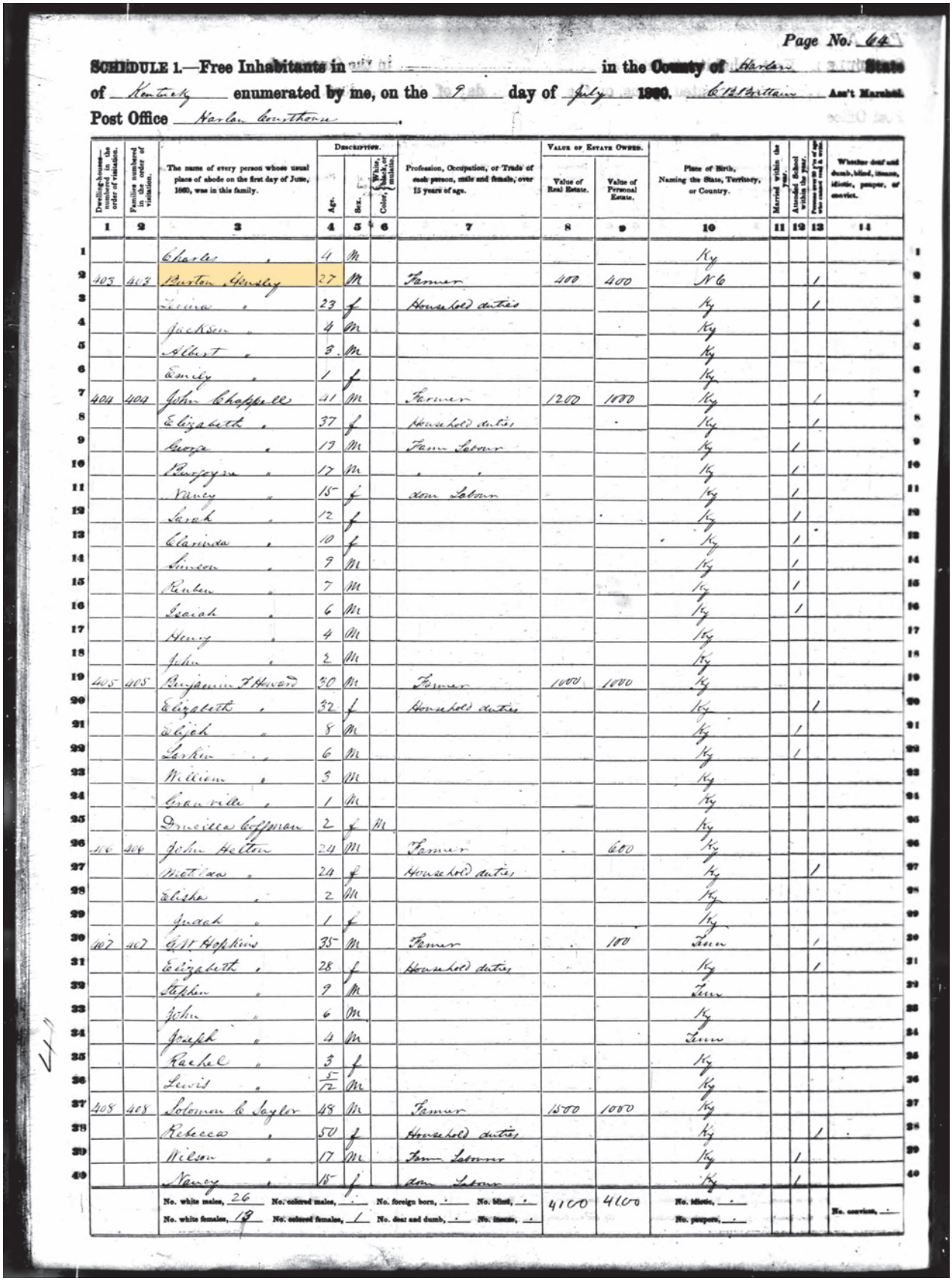
FIGURE B–5. Family Tree of Willie Gibbons. Source:Ancestry.com



SCHEDULE I.—Free Inhabitants in District No 1 in the County of [illegible] State of Kentucky enumerated by me, on the 3rd day of August 1850. Asa Grimsley Ass't Marshal.

Dwelling-houses numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family.	Description: Age.	Sex.	White, black, or mulatto.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate owned.	Place of Birth. Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	School within the year.	Person over 20 yrs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
157	157	Thomas Creech	56	M		Farmer	1200	N Carolina			1	
		Celia "	50	F				Tennessee			1	
		Susan "	23	F				Kentucky			1	
		Sally "	21	F				"			1	
		John "	18	M		Farmer		"				
		Mary "	16	F				"				
		Nancy "	12	F				"				
		Daniel "	10	M				"				
		Ruth "	7	F				"				
		Calvin "	5	M				"				
158	158	John Dixon	64	M		Farmer	9300	Virginia				
		Polly "	56	F				N Carolina			1	
		Elizabeth "	78	F				Virginia			1	
		Alexander Creech	32	M		Farmer		Kentucky				
		Nancy Dixon	29	F				"			1	
		Abraham "	19	M		Farmer		"				
		Mary "	15	F				"				
		Eleanor "	90	F				"				
159	159	John Dixon Jr	25	M		Farmer		"			1	
		Nancy "	23	F				"			1	
		Jerard "	3	M				"				
		Ebenezer "	1	M				"				
160	160	John Lewis	31	M		Farmer	800	"				
		Delia "	28	F				"				
		Mary "	10	F				"				
		Lewis "	8	F				"				
		Martha "	5	F				"				
		Eleanor "	3	F				"				
		Abner "	76	M				Virginia				
		Eleanor "	70	F				"				
161	161	Washington Hensley	41	M		Farmer		Tennessee				
		Ruth "	35	F				N Carolina			1	
		Burton "	18	M		Farmer		"			1	
		Wilson "	16	M		do		"				
		Mary "	13	F				"				
		Washington "	9	M				"				
		Henry "	7	M				"				
		Mary "	4	F				"				
		James M	1	M				"				
162	162	Adam Howard	68	M		Farmer	900	Virginia				
		Hannah "	65	F				"				
		Andrew J "	25	M		Farmer		Kentucky				

FIGURE B–6. Census Records 1850 Burton Hensley. Source: US Census. On the following pages, Census records from 1850-1940 can be found for the occupants of Brush Mountain. All Census data was found on Ancestry.com.



Page No. 44

SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in _____ in the County of Harlan State of Kentucky enumerated by me, on the 9 day of July 1860. C. H. Brittain Ass't Marshal.

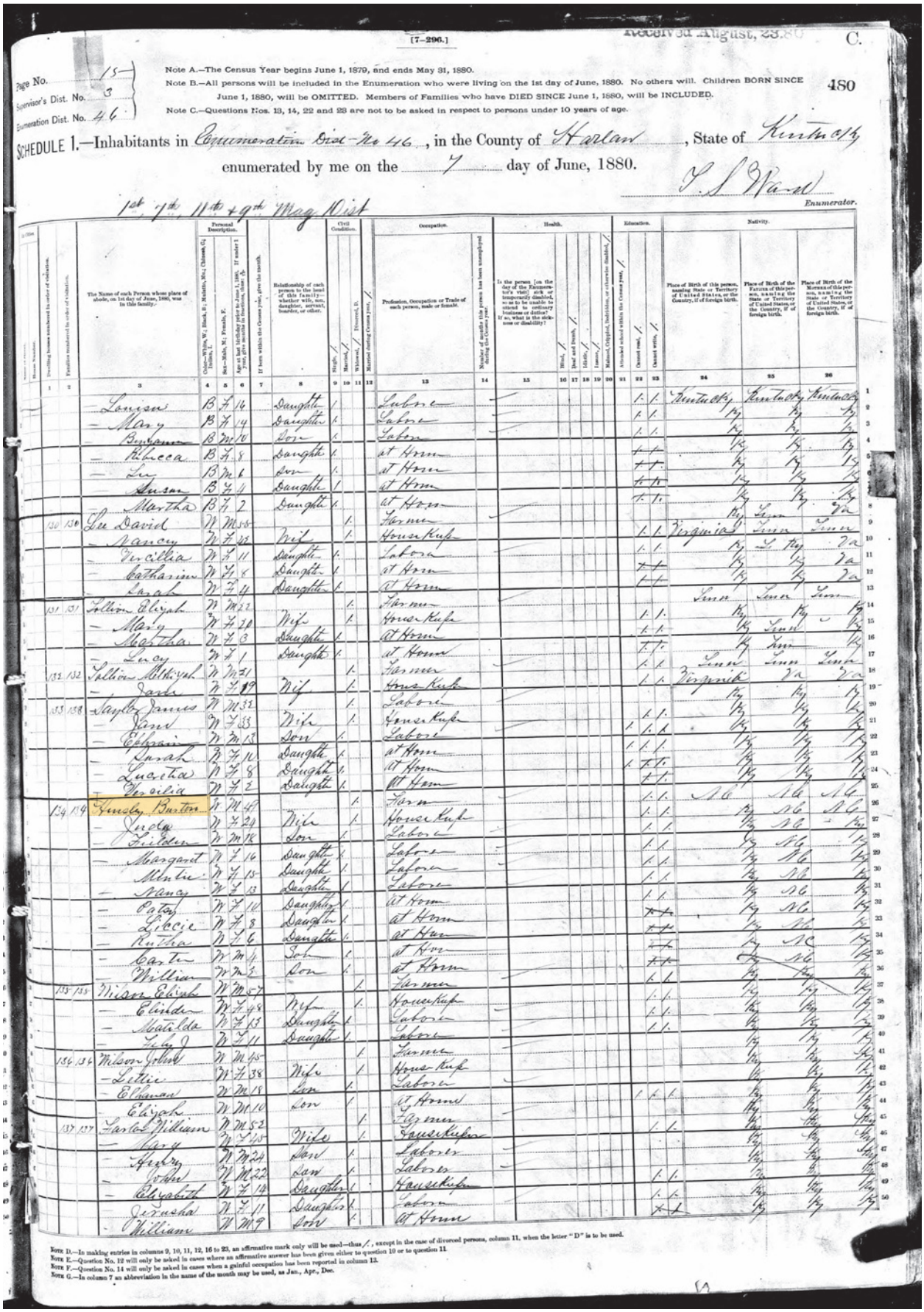
Post Office Harlan Courthouse.

Dwelling-houses numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	Description: Age.	Sex.	Color, black, or mulatto.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	Value of Estate Owned: Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 yrs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1		Charles	4	M					Ky				
2	403	403	Burton Hensley	27	M		Farmer	400	400	N C			1	
3			Lucina	23	F		Household duties			Ky			1	
4			Jackson	4	M					Ky				
5			Albert	3	M					Ky				
6			Emily	1	F					Ky				
7	404	404	John Chappell	41	M		Farmer	1200	1000	Ky			1	
8			Elizabeth	37	F		Household duties			Ky			1	
9			Geo	19	M		Farm Laborer			Ky		1		
10			Barjayin	17	M					Ky		1		
11			Nancy	15	F		Farm Laborer			Ky		1		
12			Sarah	12	F					Ky		1		
13			Clarinda	10	F					Ky		1		
14			Simeon	9	M					Ky		1		
15			Reuben	7	M					Ky		1		
16			Isaiah	6	M					Ky		1		
17			Henry	4	M					Ky				
18			John	2	M					Ky				
19	405	405	Benjamin F Howard	30	M		Farmer	1000	1000	Ky				
20			Elizabeth	32	F		Household duties			Ky			1	
21			Elijah	8	M					Ky		1		
22			Larkin	6	M					Ky		1		
23			William	3	M					Ky				
24			Granville	1	M					Ky				
25			Druscilla Coffman	2	F	M				Ky				
26	406	406	John Helton	24	M		Farmer		600	Ky				
27			Martha	24	F		Household duties			Ky			1	
28			Elisha	2	M					Ky				
29			Sarah	1	F					Ky				
30	407	407	Gist Hopkins	35	M		Farmer		100	Tenn			1	
31			Elizabeth	28	F		Household duties			Ky			1	
32			Stephen	9	M					Tenn				
33			John	6	M					Ky				
34			Joseph	4	M					Tenn				
35			Rachel	3	F					Ky				
36			Lewis	5/12	M					Ky				
37	408	408	Solomon C Seyler	48	M		Farmer	1500	1000	Ky				
38			Rebecca	50	F		Household duties			Ky			1	
39			Wilson	17	M		Farm Laborer			Ky		1		
40			Nancy	15	F		Farm Laborer			Ky		1		

No. white males, 26 No. colored males, — No. foreign born, — No. blind, — 4100 4600 No. idiotic, —

No. white females, 19 No. colored females, 1 No. deaf and dumb, — No. insane, — No. paupers, — No. convicts, —

FIGURE B–7. Census Records 1860 Burton Hensley. Source: US Census



[7–296.] Received August, 28.80 C.

Page No. 15
Supervisor's Dist. No. 3
Enumeration Dist. No. 46

Note A.—The Census Year begins June 1, 1879, and ends May 31, 1880.
Note B.—All persons will be included in the Enumeration who were living on the 1st day of June, 1880. No others will. Children BORN SINCE June 1, 1880, will be OMITTED. Members of Families who have DIED SINCE June 1, 1880, will be INCLUDED.
Note C.—Questions Nos. 13, 14, 22 and 23 are not to be asked in respect to persons under 10 years of age.

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SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in Enumeration Dist. No 46, in the County of Harlan, State of Kentucky enumerated by me on the 7 day of June, 1880.

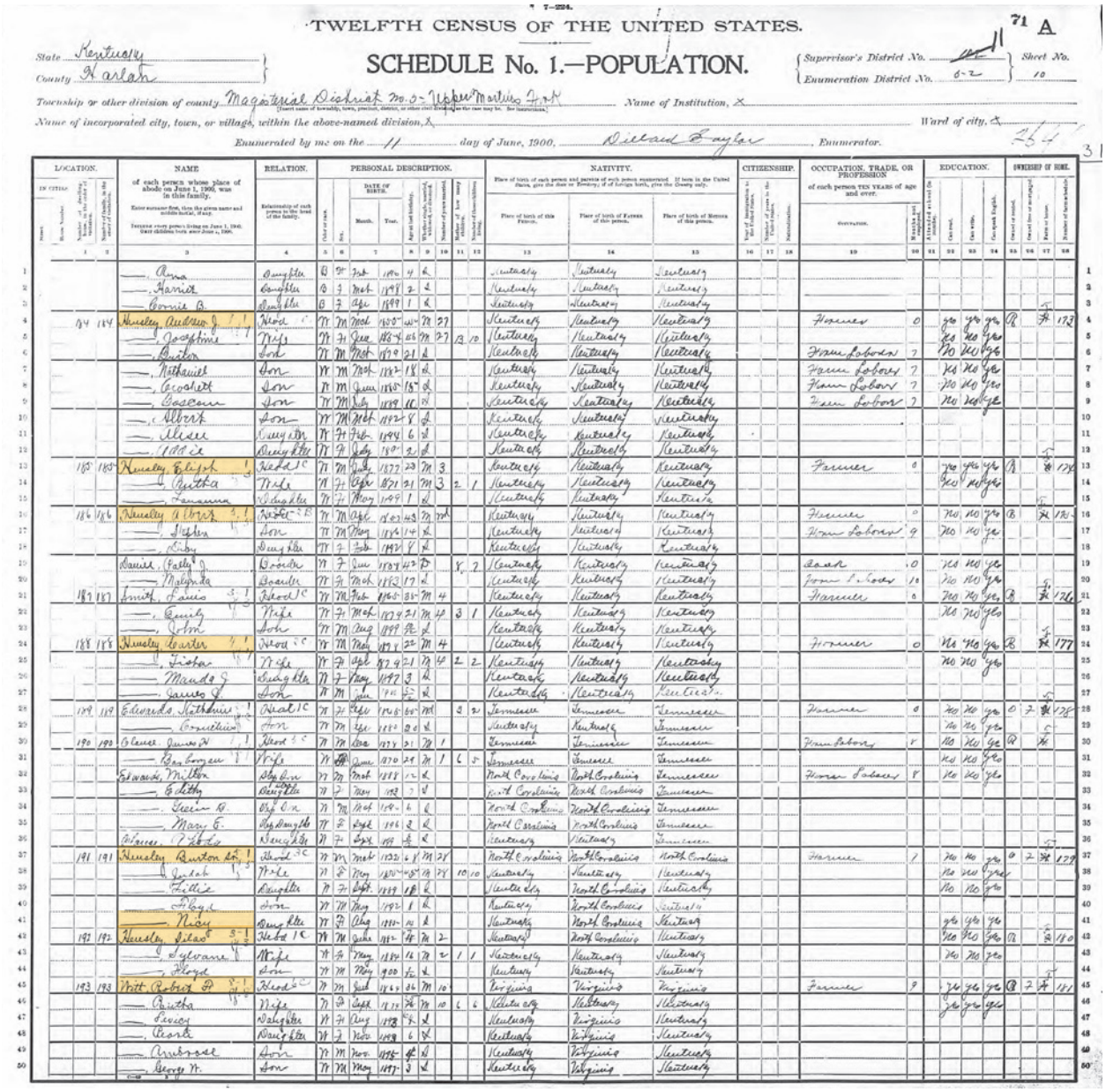
J. S. Ward
Enumerator.

1st 7th 11th & 9th Mag Dist

Dwelling houses numbered in order of visitation.	Families numbered in order of visitation.	The Name of each Person whose place of abode, on 1st day of June, 1880, was in this family.	Personal Description. Color—White, W.; Black, B.; Mulatto, Mu.; Chinese, Ch.; Indian, I.	Sex—Male, M.; Female, F.	Age last birthday prior to June 1, 1880. If under 1 year, give months in fractions, thus: 6/12.	If born within the Census year, give the month.	Relationship of each person to the head of this family—whether wife, son, daughter, servant, boarder, or other.	Civil Condition. Single.	Married.	Divorced, D.	Widowed.	Married during Census year.	Occupation. Profession, Occupation or Trade of each person, male or female.	Number of months this person has been unemployed during the Census year.	Health. Is the person [on the day of the Enumerator's visit] sick or temporarily disabled, so as to be unable to attend to ordinary business or duties? If so, what is the sickness or disability?	Blind.	Deaf and Dumb.	Idiotic.	Insane.	Maimed, Crippled, Bedridden, or otherwise disabled.	Education. Attended school within the Census year.	Cannot read.	Cannot write.	Nativity. Place of Birth of this person, naming State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Place of Birth of the Father of this person, naming the State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Place of Birth of the Mother of this person, naming the State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of foreign birth.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
		Louisa	B	F	16		Daughter	/				Labor									/	/	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	1
		Mary	B	F	14		Daughter	/				Labor									/	/	"	"	"	2
		Benjamin	B	M	10		Son	/				Labor									/	/	"	"	"	3
		Rebecca	B	F	8		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	4
		Lee	B	M	6		Son	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	5
		Susan	B	F	4		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	6
		Martha	B	F	2		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	7
130	130	Lee David	M	M	58				/			Farmer									/	/	"	"	"	8
		Nancy	M	F	42		Wife		/			Housekeeping									/	/	Virginia	Unknown	Unknown	9
		Cicilia	M	F	11		Daughter	/				Labor									/	/	"	"	"	10
		Catharine	M	F	6		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	11
		Sarah	M	F	4		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	12
																							Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	13
131	131	Sollion Elijah	M	M	32				/			Farmer									/	/	"	"	"	14
		Mary	M	F	30		Wife		/			Housekeeping									/	/	"	"	"	15
		Martha	M	F	3		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	16
		Lucy	M	F	1		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	17
132	132	Sollion Mitheyal	M	M	71					/		Farmer									/	/	Virginia	Virginia	Virginia	18
		Jane	M	F	69		Wife			/		Housekeeping									/	/	"	"	"	19
133	133	Saylor James	M	M	32				/			Labor									/	/	"	"	"	20
		Jane	M	F	33		Wife		/			Housekeeping									/	/	"	"	"	21
		Edgar	M	M	13		Son	/				Labor									/	/	"	"	"	22
		Sarah	M	F	10		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	23
		Lucretia	M	F	8		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	24
		Cicilia	M	F	2		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	25
134	134	Hensley Burton	M	M	47					/		Farmer									/	/	Virginia	Virginia	Virginia	26
		Linda	M	F	39		Wife		/			Housekeeping									/	/	"	"	"	27
		Tilden	M	M	18		Son	/				Labor									/	/	"	"	"	28
		Margaret	M	F	16		Daughter	/				Labor									/	/	"	"	"	29
		Minta	M	F	15		Daughter	/				Labor									/	/	"	"	"	30
		Nancy	M	F	13		Daughter	/				Labor									/	/	"	"	"	31
		Cator	M	F	11		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	32
		Gracie	M	F	8		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	33
		Ruthia	M	F	6		Daughter	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	34
		Carter	M	M	4		Son	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	35
		William	M	M	3		Son	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	36
135	135	Milsan Elijah	M	M	57					/		Farmer									/	/	"	"	"	37
		Elinder	M	F	48		Wife			/		Housekeeping									/	/	"	"	"	38
		Matilda	M	F	18		Daughter	/				Labor									/	/	"	"	"	39
		Lucy J	M	F	11		Daughter	/				Labor											"	"	"	40
136	136	Wilson John	M	M	45					/		Farmer											"	"	"	41
		Lettie	M	F	38		Wife			/		Housekeeping									/	/	"	"	"	42
		Elmond	M	M	18		Son	/				Labor									/	/	"	"	"	43
		Elijah	M	M	10		Son	/				at Home											"	"	"	44
137	137	Carter William	M	M	52					/		Farmer											"	"	"	45
		Mary	M	F	45		Wife			/		Housekeeping									/	/	"	"	"	46
		Henry	M	M	24		Son	/				Laborer											"	"	"	47
		John	M	M	22		Son	/				Laborer											"	"	"	48
		Elizabeth	M	F	14		Daughter	/				Housekeeping									/	/	"	"	"	49
		Jemusha	M	F	11		Daughter	/				Labor									/	/	"	"	"	50
		William	M	M	9		Son	/				at Home									/	/	"	"	"	

Note D.—In making entries in columns 9, 10, 11, 12, 16 to 23, an affirmative mark only will be used—thus /, except in the case of divorced persons, column 11, when the letter "D" is to be used.
Note E.—Question No. 12 will only be asked in cases where an affirmative answer has been given either to question 10 or to question 11.
Note F.—Question No. 14 will only be asked in cases when a gainful occupation has been reported in column 13.
Note G.—In column 7 an abbreviation to the name of the month may be used, as Jan., Apr., Dec.

FIGURE B–8. Census Records 1880 Burton Hensley. Source: US Census

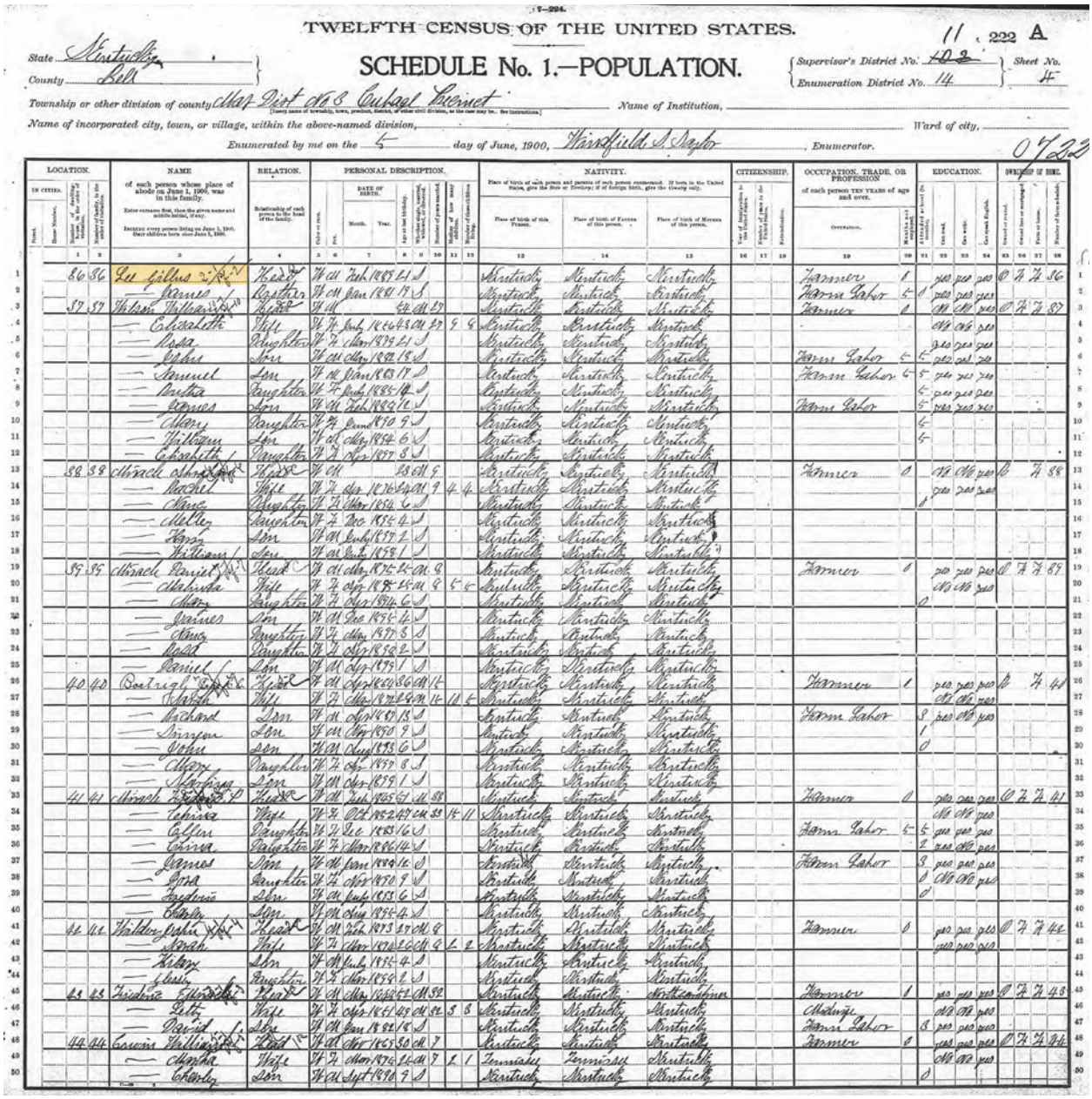

TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

State Kentucky
County Harlan
Supervisor's District No. 11
Enumeration District No. 62
Sheet No. 10
Township or other division of county Magisterial District No. 3 - Upper Martins Fork
Name of Institution, X
Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division, X
Ward of city, X
Enumerated by me on the 11 day of June, 1900. Dillard Taylor Enumerator.

LOCATION.		NAME of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1900, was in this family.	RELATION.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.							NATIVITY.			CITIZENSHIP.			OCCUPATION, TRADE, OR PROFESSION of each person TEN YEARS of age and over.	EDUCATION.				OWNERSHIP OF HOME.			
						DATE OF BIRTH.																		
						Month.	Year.																	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		Anna	Daughter	F	W	Feb	1890	4	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
		Harriet	Daughter	F	W	Mch	1898	2	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
		Bonnie B.	Daughter	F	W	Apr	1899	1	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
184	184	Hensley Andrew J.	Head	M	W	Mch	1865	34	M	27		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	0	yes	yes	yes	R		H	173	
		Josephine	Wife	F	W	Jun	1874	25	M	27	3	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						yes	no	yes					
		Baxter	Son	M	W	Mch	1892	21	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Laborer	7	no	no	yes					
		Nathaniel	Son	M	W	Mch	1882	18	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Laborer	7	yes	no	yes					
		Cevoshett	Son	M	W	Jun	1885	15	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Laborer	7	no	no	yes					
		Boscow	Son	M	W	July	1889	10	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Laborer	7	no	no	yes					
		Albert	Son	M	W	Mch	1892	8	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
		Alice	Daughter	F	W	Feb	1894	6	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
		Ollie	Daughter	F	W	July	1897	2	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
185	185	Hensley Elijah	Head	M	W	July	1877	23	M	3		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	0	yes	yes	yes	R		H	174	
		Retha	Wife	F	W	Apr	1871	21	M	3	2	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						yes	no	yes					
		Tamanna	Daughter	F	W	May	1899	1	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
186	186	Hensley Albert	Visitor	M	W	Apr	1863	36	M	10		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	0	no	no	yes	R		H	181	
		Stephen	Son	M	W	May	1892	14	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Laborer	9	no	no	yes					
		Ruby	Daughter	F	W	Feb	1897	8	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
		Daniel (Father)	Boarder	M	W	Jun	1827	72	D			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Saw	0	yes	no	yes					
		Melinda	Boarder	F	W	Mch	1853	17	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Laborer	10	no	no	yes					
187	187	Smith, James	Head	M	W	Feb	1860	35	M	4		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	0	no	no	yes	R		H	176	
		Emily	Wife	F	W	Mch	1874	21	M	4	1	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						no	no	yes					
		John	Son	M	W	Aug	1899	9/12	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
188	188	Hensley Carter	Head	M	W	May	1874	25	M	4		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	0	yes	yes	yes	R		H	177	
		Victor	Wife	F	W	Apr	1877	21	M	4	2	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						no	no	yes					
		Maude J	Daughter	F	W	May	1897	3	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
		James J	Son	M	W	Jan	1900	5/12	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
189	189	Edwards Nathaniel	Head	M	W	Sept	1866	33	M	2	2	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee				Farmer	0	no	no	yes	0	7	H	178	
		Cornelius	Son	M	W	Jan	1892	8	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Tennessee						no	no	yes					
190	190	Clarence James W	Head	M	W	Dec	1873	26	M	1		Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee				Farm Laborer	8	no	no	yes	R		H		
		Ben Bowyer	Wife	M	W	June	1870	29	M	1	6	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee						no	no	yes					
		Edward Milton	Step Son	M	W	Mch	1888	12	S			North Carolina	North Carolina	Tennessee				Farm Laborer	8	no	no	yes					
		Edith	Daughter	F	W	Nov	1892	7	S			North Carolina	North Carolina	Tennessee													
		Irvin M.	Step Son	M	W	Mch	1896	4	S			North Carolina	North Carolina	Tennessee													
		Mary E.	Step Daughter	F	W	Sept	1896	3	S			North Carolina	North Carolina	Tennessee													
		Frances Noble	Daughter	F	W	Sept	1899	8/12	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Tennessee													
191	191	Hensley Burton Sr.	Head	M	W	Mch	1832	68	M	28		North Carolina	North Carolina	North Carolina				Farmer	1	no	no	yes	0	7	H	179	
		Judah	Wife	F	W	May	1830	45	M	28	10	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						no	no	yes					
		Lillie	Daughter	F	W	Sept	1889	10	S			Kentucky	North Carolina	Kentucky						no	no	yes					
		Lloyd	Son	M	W	May	1892	8	S			Kentucky	North Carolina	Kentucky													
		Mary	Daughter	F	W	Aug	1894	5	S			Kentucky	North Carolina	Kentucky						yes	yes	yes					
192	192	Hensley Silas	Head	M	W	June	1862	37	M	2		Kentucky	North Carolina	Kentucky						yes	no	yes	R		H	180	
		Sylvania	Wife	F	W	May	1874	25	M	2	1	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						no	no	yes					
		Floyd	Son	M	W	May	1900	1/12	S			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
193	193	Witt Robert F.	Head	M	W	Sept	1869	30	M	10		Virginia	Virginia	Virginia				Farmer	9	yes	yes	yes	R	7	H	181	
		Retha	Wife	F	W	Sept	1870	29	M	10	6	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						yes	yes	yes					
		Leroy	Daughter	F	W	Aug	1892	8	S			Kentucky	Virginia	Kentucky													
		Clark	Daughter	F	W	Nov	1898	6	S			Kentucky	Virginia	Kentucky													
		Ambrose	Son	M	W	Mch	1896	4/12	S			Kentucky	Virginia	Kentucky													
		George M.	Son	M	W	May	1897	3	S			Kentucky	Virginia	Kentucky													

FIGURE B–9. Census Records 1890 showing details for Burton Hensley, Andrew Jackson Hensley, Elijah Hensley, Carter Hensley, Silas Hensley, and Robert F. Witt. Most of these men were granted or sold property by Burton Hensley Sr. as delineated in the 1906 M. M. Speak survey. Source: US Census



TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

State Kentucky
County Bell
Township or other division of county Mat Dist 66 8 Cubagal Precinct
Name of Institution,
Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division,
Ward of city,
Enumerated by me on the 5 day of June, 1900, Hansfield A Taylor, Enumerator.

Supervisor's District No. 102
Enumeration District No. 14
Sheet No. A

11, 222 A

0722

	Location. In cities. Street.	House Number.	Number of dwelling house, in the order of visitation.	Number of family, in the order of visitation.	Name of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1900, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on June 1, 1900. Omit children born after June 1, 1900.	Relation. Relationship of each person to the head of the family.	Personal Description. Color or race.	Sex.	Date of Birth. Month.	Year.	Age at last birthday.	Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced.	Number of years married.	Mother of how many children.	Number of these children living.	Nativity. Place of birth of this Person.	Place of birth of Father of this person.	Place of birth of Mother of this person.	Citizenship. Year of immigration to the United States.	Number of years in the United States.	Naturalization.	Occupation, Trade, or Profession of each person TEN YEARS of age and over. Occupation.	Months not employed.	Education. Attended school (in months).	Can read.	Can write.	Can speak English.	Home. Owned or rented.	Owned free or mortgaged.	Farm or home.	Number of farm schedule.
1			86	86	Lee Gillis Sr	Head	W	M	Feb	1859	41	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	1		yes	yes	yes	O	H	M	86
2					James	Nephew	W	M	Jan	1881	19	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Labor	5	0	yes	yes	yes				
3			87	87	Wilson Williams	Head	W	M			24	M	2	0		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	0		no	no	yes	O	H	M	87
4					Elizabeth	Wife	W	F	Feb	1864	36	M	2	0		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							no	no	yes				
5					Rosa	Daughter	W	F	Mar	1879	21	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							yes	yes	yes				
6					Silas	Son	W	M	Dec	1892	7	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Labor	5	5	yes	yes	yes				
7					Samuel	Son	W	M	Jan	1893	7	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Labor	5	5	yes	yes	yes				
8					Martha	Daughter	W	F	Feb	1888	12	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						5	yes	yes	yes				
9					James	Son	W	M	Feb	1889	11	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Labor		5	yes	yes	yes				
10					Mary	Daughter	W	F	Dec	1890	9	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						4							
11					William	Son	W	M	Oct	1894	6	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						4							
12					Elizabeth	Daughter	W	F	Apr	1897	3	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
13			88	88	Monroe Abernathy	Head	W	M			28	M	9			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	0		no	no	yes	O	H	M	88
14					Rachel	Wife	W	F	Apr	1876	24	M	9	4	4	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							yes	yes	yes				
15					Mary	Daughter	W	F	Mar	1894	6	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						0							
16					Nellie	Daughter	W	F	Dec	1897	4	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
17					Henry	Son	W	M	Sept	1899	2	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
18					William	Son	W	M	Oct	1899	1	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
19			89	89	Monroe Daniel	Head	W	M	Oct	1870	29	M	9			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	0		yes	yes	yes	O	H	M	89
20					Melinda	Wife	W	F	Sep	1878	21	M	9	5	4	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							no	no	yes				
21					Alice	Daughter	W	F	Sep	1894	6	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						0							
22					James	Son	W	M	Dec	1895	4	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
23					Anna	Daughter	W	F	Mar	1897	3	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
24					Maud	Daughter	W	F	Sep	1898	2	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
25					Daniel	Son	W	M	Sep	1899	1	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
26			40	40	Bostrigl Lee Sr	Head	W	M	Oct	1860	39	M	14			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	1		yes	yes	yes	O	H	M	41
27					Martha	Wife	W	F	Mar	1862	38	M	14	10	6	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							no	no	yes				
28					Richard	Son	W	M	Oct	1881	18	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Labor		8	yes	no	yes				
29					Simpson	Son	W	M	Nov	1890	9	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						1							
30					John	Son	W	M	Aug	1893	6	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						0							
31					Allen	Daughter	W	F	Oct	1897	3	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
32					Stephen	Son	W	M	Oct	1899	1	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
33			41	41	Monroe Elizabeth	Head	W	M	Feb	1865	35	M	18			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	0		yes	yes	yes	O	H	M	41
34					Tabitha	Wife	W	F	Oct	1862	37	M	18	14	11	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							no	no	yes				
35					Alfin	Daughter	W	F	Dec	1883	16	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Labor	5	5	yes	yes	yes				
36					Emma	Daughter	W	F	Mar	1886	14	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						2	yes	no	yes				
37					James	Son	W	M	Jan	1888	12	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Labor		8	yes	yes	yes				
38					Rosa	Daughter	W	F	Oct	1890	9	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						0	no	no	yes				
39					Stephen	Son	W	M	Feb	1893	6	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						0							
40					Elbert	Son	W	M	Nov	1895	4	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
41			42	42	Walden Isaiah	Head	W	M	Feb	1873	27	M	8			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	0		yes	yes	yes	O	H	M	42
42					Norah	Wife	W	F	Mar	1874	26	M	8	2	2	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							yes	yes	yes				
43					Tilbry	Son	W	M	July	1894	4	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
44					Lewis	Daughter	W	F	Mar	1898	2	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky													
45			43	43	Fridrick Eldridge	Head	W	M	Mar	1868	32	M	12			Kentucky	Kentucky	Northcarolina				Farmer	1		yes	yes	yes	O	H	M	43
46					Sally	Wife	W	F	Sept	1864	35	M	12	3	3	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Midwife			no	no	yes				
47					David	Son	W	M	Jan	1882	18	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farm Labor		8	yes	no	yes				
48			44	44	Cowan Williams	Head	W	M	Nov	1865	34	M	7			Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky				Farmer	0		yes	yes	yes	O	H	M	44
49					Martha	Wife	W	F	Mar	1876	24	M	7	2	1	Tennessee	Tennessee	Kentucky							no	no	yes				
50					Charley	Son	W	M	Sept	1896	3	S				Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						0							

FIGURE B–10. Census Records 1900 Gillis Lee Sr. Source: US Census

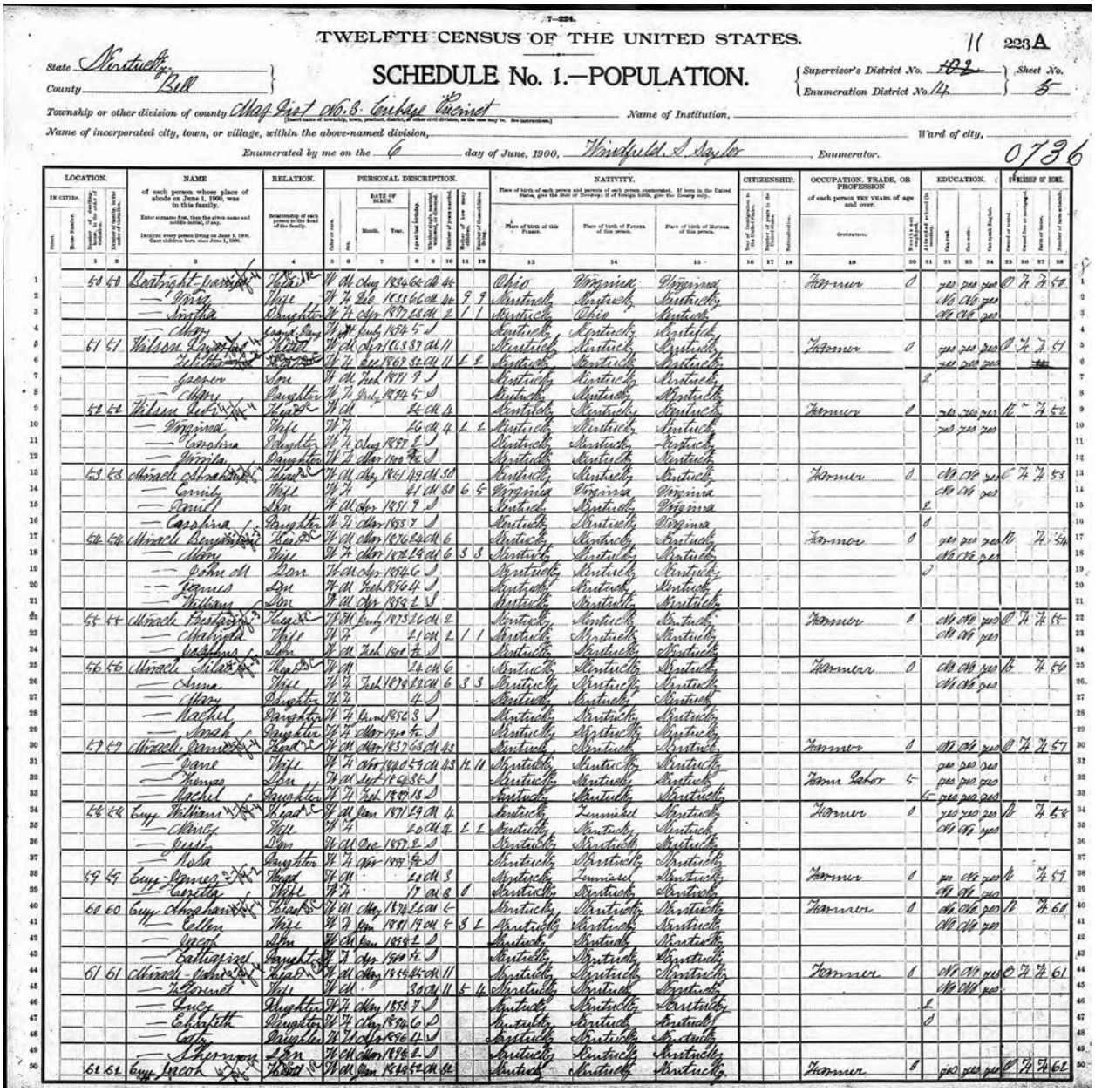


FIGURE B–11. Census Records 1900 Cupps and Saylors. Source: US Census

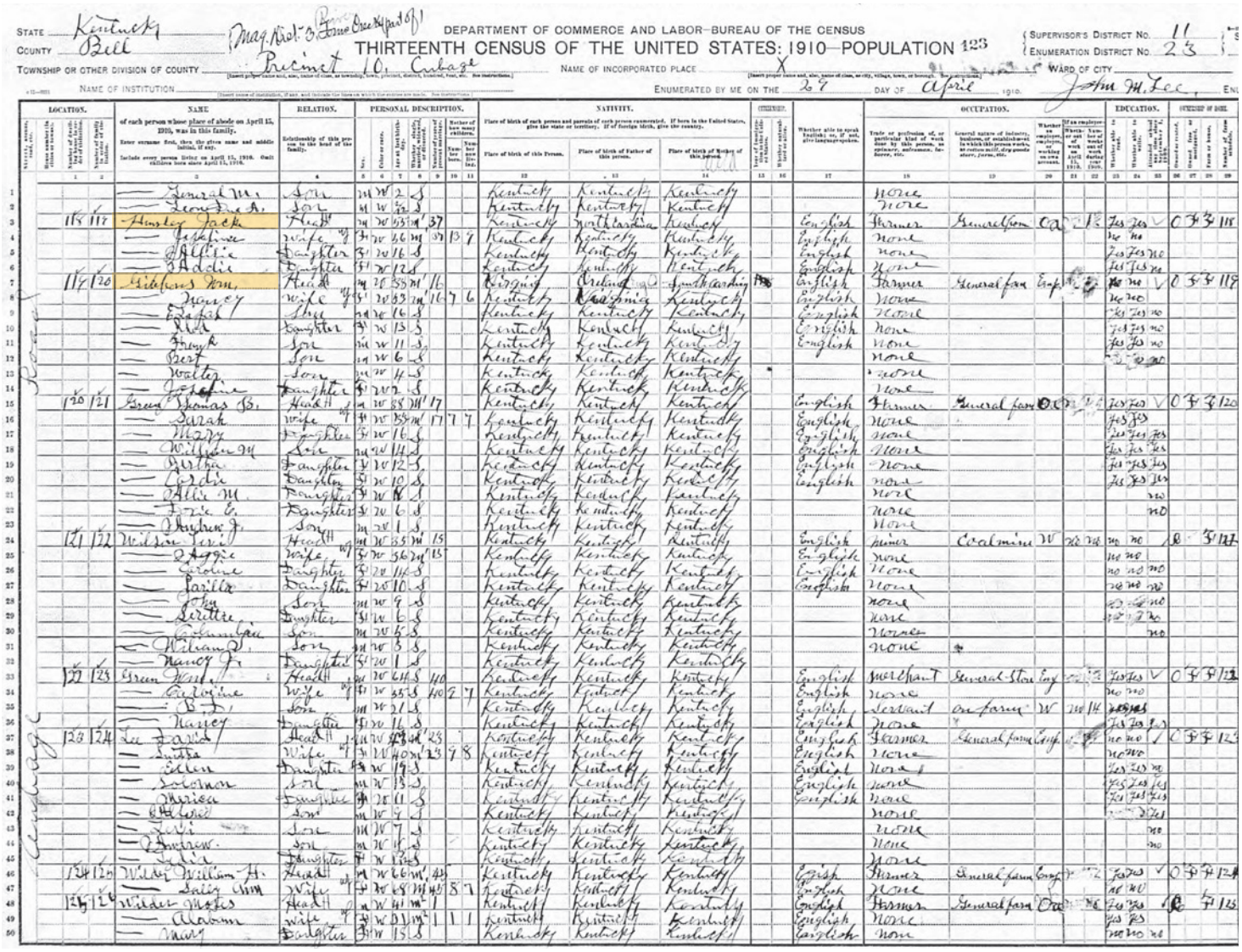


FIGURE B–12. Census Records 1910 with details on Andrew Jackson "Jack" Hensley and William Gibbons. Source: US Census

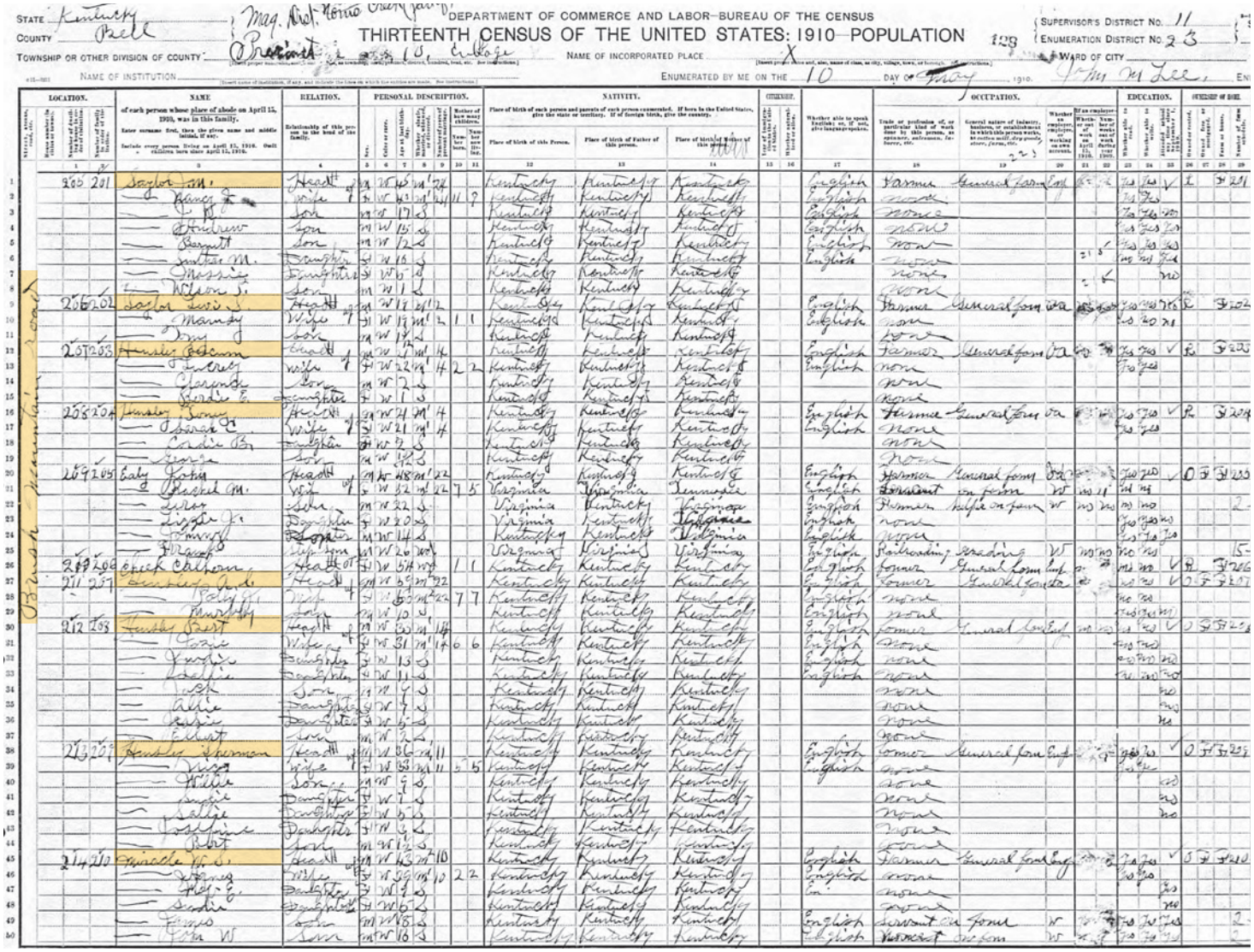


FIGURE B–13. Census Records 1910 with details on Bascom Hensley, Toney Hensley, Al Hensley, Bert Hensley, and Sherman Hensley. Source: US Census

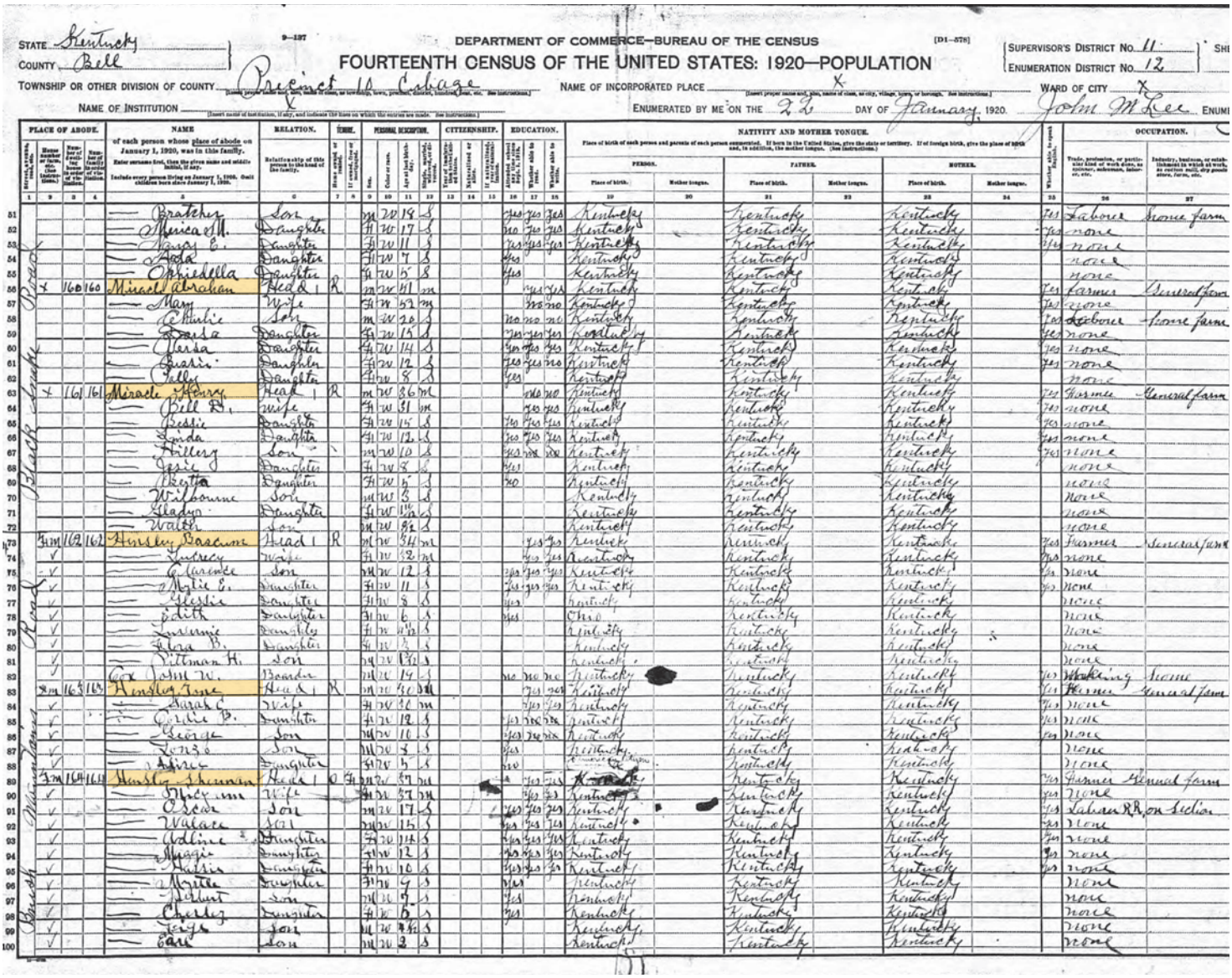


FIGURE B–14. Census Records 1920 with details on Bascom Hensley, Toney Hensley, Sherman Hensley, as well as Abraham Miracle and Henry Miracle. Source: US Census

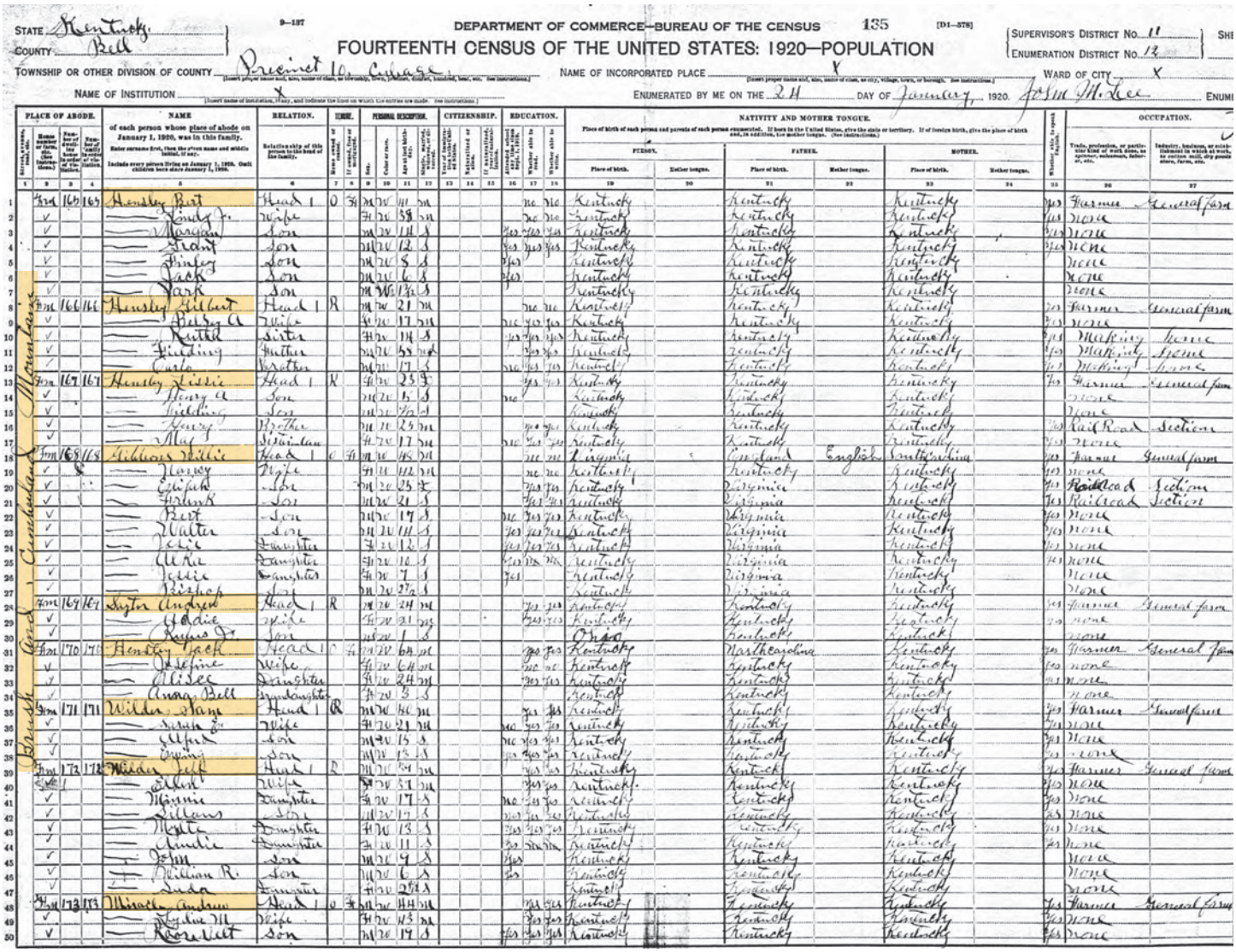


FIGURE B–15. Census Records 1920 with details on Bert Hensley, Gilbert Hensley, Lissie Hensley, Willie Gibbons, Andrey Saylor, Jack Hensley, Sam Wilder, Jeff Wilder, and Andrew Miracle. Source: US Census

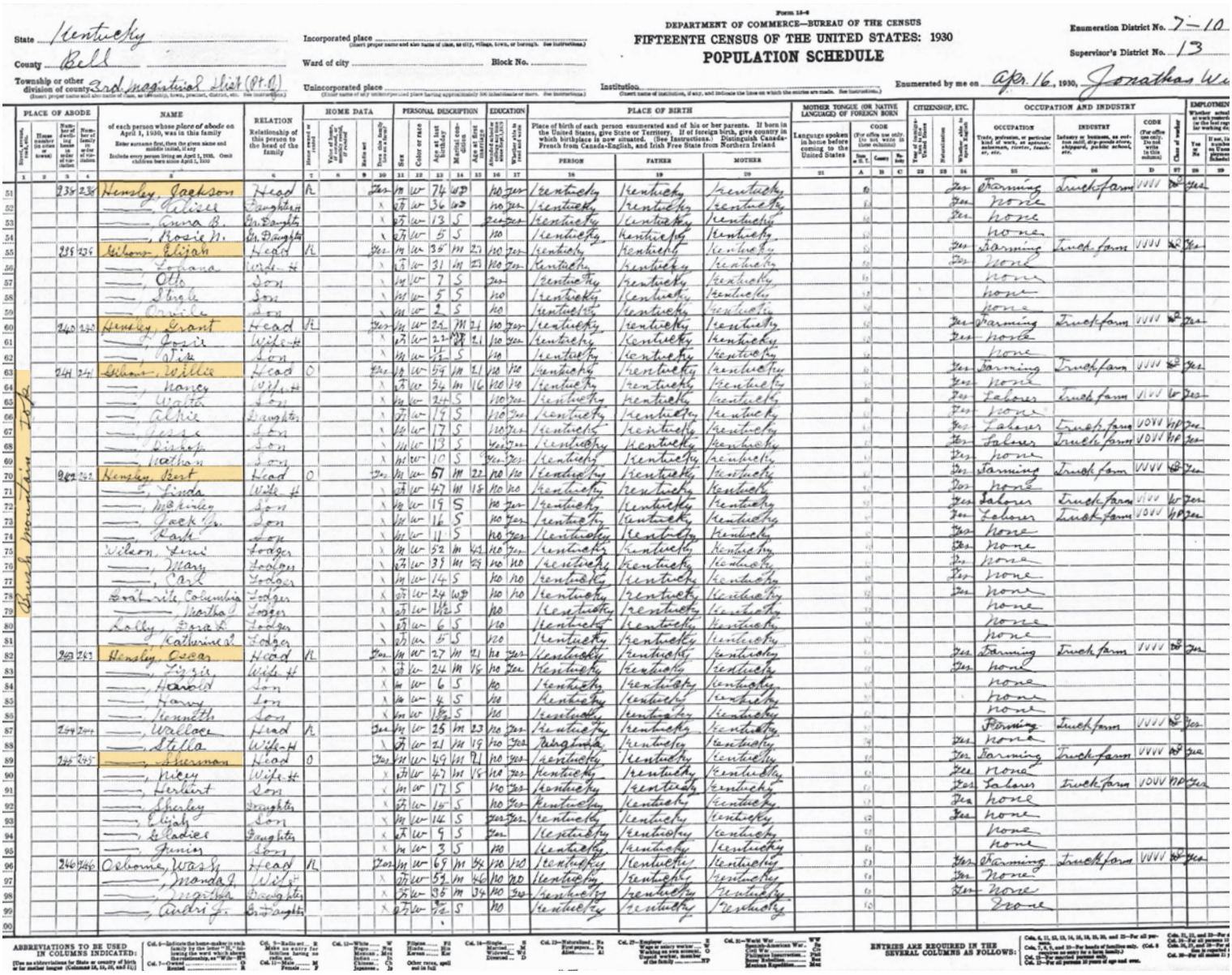
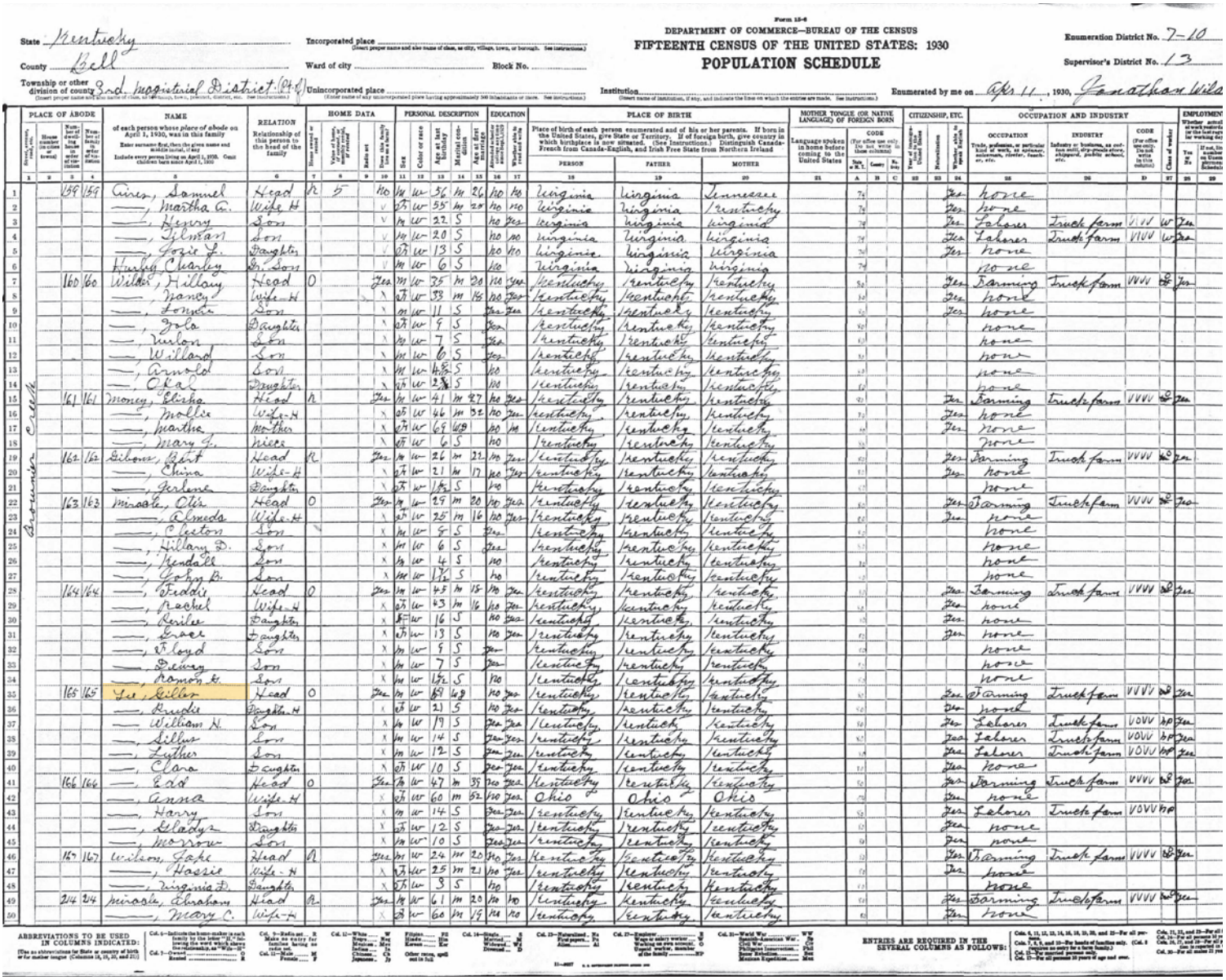


FIGURE B–16. Census Records 1930 with details on Jackson Hensley, Elijah Gibons (Gibbons), Grant Hensley, Willie Gibons (Gibbons), Bert Hensley, Oscar Hensley, and Sherman Hensley. Each of these men held land atop Brush Mountain during the height of Hensley Settlement. All are listed as farmers. In the 1906 M. M. Speaks Survey, a portion of land was granted to Jane Hensley Osborne who married a Robert Osborne. They may have been associated with Wash Osborne. Source: US Census



Form 10-6

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE—BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

FIFTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1930

POPULATION SCHEDULE

State Kentucky — County Bell — Township or other division of county 3rd. magisterial District (Part) — Incorporated place — Ward of city — Unincorporated place — Block No. — Institution — Enumeration District No. 7-10 — Supervisor's District No. 13 — Enumerated by me on Apr 11, 1930, Jonathan Wilder

	PLACE OF ABODE			NAME	RELATION	HOME DATA				PERSONAL DESCRIPTION					EDUCATION		PLACE OF BIRTH			MOTHER TONGUE (OR NATIVE LANGUAGE) OF FOREIGN BORN			CITIZENSHIP, ETC.			OCCUPATION AND INDUSTRY				EMPLOYMENT	
	Street, avenue, road, etc.	House number (in cities or towns)	Number of farm schedule, in order of visitation	Name of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on April 1, 1930. Omit children born after April 1, 1930	Relationship of this person to the head of the family	Home owned or rented	Value of home, if owned, or monthly rental, if rented	Radio set	Does this family use as a farm?	Sex	Color or race	Age at last birthday	Marital condition	Age at first marriage	Attended school or college any time since Sept. 1, 1929	Whether able to read and write	Place of birth of each person enumerated and of his or her parents. If born in the United States, give State or Territory. If of foreign birth, give country in which birthplace is now situated. (See Instructions.) Distinguish Canada-French from Canada-English, and Irish Free State from Northern Ireland			Language spoken in home before coming to the United States	CODE (For office use only)			Year of immigration into the United States	Naturalization	Whether able to speak English	Occupation	Industry	CODE (For office use only)	Class of worker	Whether actually at work yesterday (or the last regular working day)	If not, line number on Unemployment Schedule
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	A	B	C	22	23	24	25	26	D	27	28	29
1	Brownies Creek		159	159	Cires, Samuel	Head	R	5			No	W	W	56	M	26	No	No	Virginia	Virginia	Tennessee						Yes	None				
2					—, Martha C.	Wife H				V		W	W	55	M	20	No	No	Virginia	Virginia	Kentucky						Yes	None				
3					—, Henry	Son				V		M	W	22	S		No	Yes	Virginia	Virginia	Virginia						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	V1V	W	Yes
4					—, Silman	Son				V		M	W	20	S		No	No	Virginia	Virginia	Virginia						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	V1V	W	Yes
5					—, Josie L.	Daughter				V		D	W	13	S		No	No	Virginia	Virginia	Virginia						Yes	None				
6					Hurley, Charley	Bro. Son				V		M	W	6	S		No		Virginia	Virginia	Virginia							None				
7			160	160	Wilder, Hillary	Head	O			Yes	M	W	W	35	M	20	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVV	W	Yes
8					—, Nancy	Wife H				X		D	W	38	M	16	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
9					—, Londie	Son				X		M	W	11	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
10					—, Dola	Daughter				X		D	W	9	S		Yes		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
11					—, Burlon	Son				X		M	W	7	S		Yes		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
12					—, Willard	Son				X		M	W	6	S		Yes		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
13					—, Arnold	Son				X		M	W	4 5/12	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
14					—, Ora	Daughter				X		D	W	2 3/12	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
15			161	161	Money, Elisha	Head	R			Yes	M	W	W	41	M	27	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	W	Yes
16					—, Mollie	Wife H				X		D	W	46	M	32	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
17					—, Martha	Mother				X		D	W	69	Wd		No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
18					—, Mary G.	Niece				X		D	W	6	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
19			162	162	Gibson, Bert	Head	R			Yes	M	W	W	26	M	22	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	W	Yes
20					—, China	Wife H				X		D	W	21	M	17	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
21					—, Jerlene	Daughter				X		D	W	1 8/12	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
22			163	163	Miracle, Olis	Head	O			Yes	M	W	W	25	M	20	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	W	Yes
23					—, Almeda	Wife H				X		D	W	25	M	16	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
24					—, Clinton	Son				X		M	W	5	S		Yes		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
25					—, Hilary D.	Son				X		M	W	6	S		Yes		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
26					—, Kendall	Son				X		M	W	4	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
27					—, John B.	Son				X		M	W	1 2/12	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
28			164	164	—, Fiddie	Head	O			Yes	M	W	W	43	M	18	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	W	Yes
29					—, Rachel	Wife H				X		D	W	43	M	16	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
30					—, Nellie	Daughter				X		M	W	16	S		No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
31					—, Grace	Daughter				X		D	W	13	S		No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
32					—, Floyd	Son				X		M	W	9	S		Yes		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
33					—, Dewey	Son				X		M	W	7	S		Yes		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
34					—, Ramon H.	Son				X		M	W	1 9/12	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
35			165	165	Lee, Gillen	Head	O			Yes	M	W	W	69	Wd	48	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	W	Yes
36					—, Rudie	Daughter H				X		D	W	21	S		No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
37					—, William H.	Son				X		M	W	19	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VOVV	NP	Yes
38					—, Gillus	Son				X		M	W	14	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VOVV	NP	Yes
39					—, Luther	Son				X		M	W	12	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VOVV	NP	Yes
40					—, Clara	Daughter				X		D	W	10	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
41			166	166	—, Ed	Head	O			Yes	M	W	W	47	M	35	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	W	Yes
42					—, Anna	Wife H				X		D	W	60	M	52	No	Yes	Ohio	Ohio	Ohio						Yes	None				
43					—, Harry	Son				X		M	W	14	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VOVV	NP	
44					—, Gladys	Daughter				X		D	W	12	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
45					—, Morrow	Son				X		M	W	10	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
46			167	167	Wilson, Jake	Head	R			Yes	M	W	W	24	M	20	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	W	Yes
47					—, Hassie	Wife H				X		D	W	25	M	21	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				
48					—, Virginia D.	Daughter				X		D	W	3	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							None				
49			214	214	Miracle, Abraham	Head	R			Yes	M	W	W	61	M	20	No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	W	Yes
50					—, Mary C.	Wife H				X		D	W	60	M	19	No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	None				

ABBREVIATIONS TO BE USED IN COLUMNS INDICATED: [Use as abbreviations for State or country of birth or for mother tongue (Columns 18, 19, 20, and 21)]

Col. 5—Indicate the home-maker in each family by the letter "H." Indicate lodgers by the letter "L." Indicate the head of each subfamily by the letter "H." Indicate the relationship, as "Wife—W," "Son—S," "Daughter—D," "Lodger—L," "Servant—Serv," "Roomer—R."

Col. 9—Radio set—R. Make no entry for families having no radio set.

Col. 11—Sex: Male—M, Female—F

Col. 12—White—W, Negro—Ne, Mexican—Mex, Indian—In, Chinese—Ch, Japanese—Jp, Filipino—Fil, Hindu—Hin, Korean—Kor, Other races, spell out in full

Col. 16—Single—S, Married—M, Widowed—Wd, Divorced—D

Col. 18—Naturalized—Na, First papers—Fp, Alien—Al

Col. 21—Language spoken in home before coming to the United States: Write in full the name of the language, whether English, German, Italian, French, Spanish, Swedish, Polish, Russian, Yiddish, Chinese, Japanese, Greek, Hungarian, Bohemian, Slovak, Croatian, Dutch, Portuguese, Roumanian, Lithuanian, Arabic, Syrian, Finnish, Danish, Norwegian, Slovenian, Welsh, Gaelic, Ruthenian, Flemish, Hebrew, Turkish, Armenian, Corean, Cushite, Hamitic, Kabyle, Kaffir, Moorish, Persian, Shilha, Suaheli, Syriac, Tamil, Zincali, Zulu, Basque, Celtic, Erse, Lettish, Manx, Romany, Romansch, Ruthenian, Sardinian, Slavonic, Wendish, Yoruba, Bantu, Fanti, Ibo, Twi, Hausa, Ewe, Fulah, Ga, Kru, Mandingo, Nubian, Sudanese, Wolof, Annamese, Bengali, Burmese, Cantonese, Gujarathi, Hindustani, Kanarese, Kurdish, Lapp, Malay, Mongolian, Pushtu, Siamese, Singhalese, Tagalog, Telugu, Uzbek, Waldensian, Zapotec, Zuni, Aztec, Carib, Chippewa, Cree, Eskimo, Iroquois, Kiowa, Mayan, Navajo, Nootka, Ojibwa, Otomi, Penobscot, Pueblo, Quechua, Shoshone, Sioux, Tarascan, Tlingit, Yaqui, Yuman, Zapotec

Col. 23—Naturalized—Na, First papers—Fp, Alien—Al

Col. 24—Employer—E, Wage or salary worker—W, Working on own account—O, Unpaid worker, member of the family—NP

Col. 25—World War—WW, Spanish-American War—Sp, Civil War—CW, Philippine Insurrection—Phil, Boxer Rebellion—Box, Mexican Expedition—Mex

ENTRIES ARE REQUIRED IN THE SEVERAL COLUMNS AS FOLLOWS:

Cols. 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 23, 25, and 28—For all persons.

Cols. 7, 8, 9, and 10—For heads of families only. (Col. 8 to contain an entry for a farm head.)

Col. 15—For married persons only.

Cols. 17—For all persons 10 years of age and over.

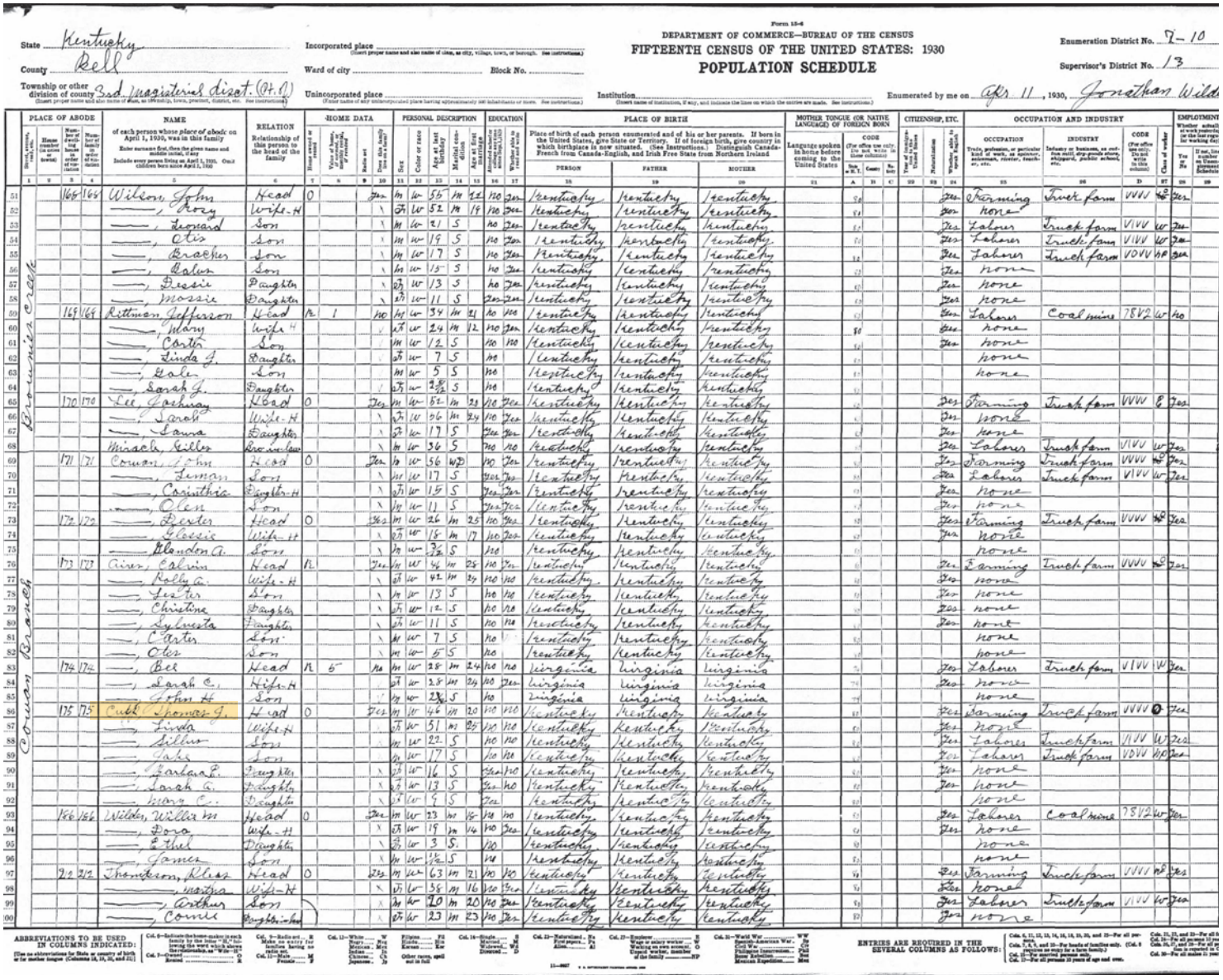
Cols. 19, 20, and 21—For all persons not in the United States.

Cols. 22, 24, and 26—For all persons 10 years of age and over.

Cols. 27, 28, and 29—For all persons 21 years of age and over.

Col. 30—For all males 21 years of age and over.

FIGURE B–17. Census Records 1930 with details on Gillis Lee and Abraham Miracle. Source: US Census



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE—BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
FIFTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1930
POPULATION SCHEDULE

State Kentucky
County Bell
Township or other division of county 3rd. magisterial dizst. (Pt. of)
Incorporated place
Ward of city
Block No.
Unincorporated place
Institution
Enumeration District No. 7-10
Supervisor's District No. 13
Enumerated by me on Apr. 11, 1930, Jonathan Wilds

	PLACE OF ABODE			NAME	RELATION	HOME DATA				PERSONAL DESCRIPTION				EDUCATION		PLACE OF BIRTH			MOTHER TONGUE (OR NATIVE LANGUAGE) OF FOREIGN BORN			CITIZENSHIP, ETC.			OCCUPATION AND INDUSTRY				EMPLOYMENT	
	Street, avenue, road, etc.	House number (in cities or towns)	Number of dwelling house in order of visitation	Number of family in order of visitation	Name of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on April 1, 1930. Omit children born since April 1, 1930	Relation of this person to the head of the family	Home owned or rented	Value of home, if owned, or monthly rental, if rented	Radio set	Does this family have a radio set?	Sex	Color or race	Age at last birthday	Married, widowed, divorced, or never married	Age at first marriage	Attended school or college any time since Sept. 1, 1929?	Whether able to read and write	Place of birth of each person enumerated and of his or her parents. If born in the United States, give State or Territory. If of foreign birth, give country in which birthplace is now situated. (See Instructions.) Distinguish Canada-French from Canada-English, and Irish Free State from Northern Ireland			Language spoken in home before coming to the United States	CODE (The office use only. Do not write in these columns)			Year of naturalization	Whether able to speak English	OCCUPATION Trade, profession, or particular kind of work, as spinner, salesman, riveter, teacher, etc.	INDUSTRY Industry or business, as cotton mill, strip-ground store, shipyard, public school, etc.	CODE (The office use only. Do not write in this column)		Whether actually at work yesterday (or the last regular working day)	
																PERSON	FATHER	MOTHER													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	A	B	C	22	23	24	25	26	D	27	28	29
51	Brownies Creek	166	166		Wilson, John	Head	O			Yes	M	W	55	M	22	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVV	O	Yes	
52					—, Roxy	Wife-H					F	W	52	M	19	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
53					—, Leopard	Son					M	W	21	S		No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VVV	W	Yes	
54					—, Otis	Son					M	W	19	S		No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VVV	W	Yes	
55					—, Bracker	Son					M	W	17	S		No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VVV	W	Yes	
56					—, Galen	Son					M	W	15	S		No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
57					—, Dessie	Daughter					F	W	13	S		No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
58					—, Mossie	Daughter					F	W	11	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
59		169	169		Rittmon, Jefferson	Head	R	1		No	M	W	34	M	21	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Coal mine	7812	W	No	
60					—, Mary	Wife-H					F	W	24	M	12	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
61					—, Carlo	Son					M	W	12	S		No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
62					—, Linda J.	Daughter					F	W	7	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							none					
63					—, Gale	Son					M	W	5	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							none					
64					—, Sarah J.	Daughter					F	W	2 8/12	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky												
65		170	170		Lee, Joshua	Head	O			Yes	M	W	82	M	23	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	O	Yes	
66					—, Sarah	Wife-H					F	W	96	M	24	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
67					—, Dana	Daughter					F	W	17	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
68					Miracle, Siller	Brother-in-law					M	W	36	S		No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VVV	W	Yes	
69		171	171		Cowan, John	Head	O			Yes	M	W	56	WD		No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVV	O	Yes	
70					—, Leman	Son					M	W	17	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VVV	W	Yes	
71					—, Corinthia	Daughter-H					F	W	15	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
72					—, Olen	Son					M	W	11	S		Yes	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
73		172	172		—, Dexter	Head	O			3462	M	W	26	M	25	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	O	Yes	
74					—, Glessie	Wife-H					F	W	18	M	17	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
75					—, Blondon A.	Son					M	W	3 2/12	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							none					
76		173	173		Riser, Calvin	Head	R			Yes	M	W	46	M	25	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	O	Yes	
77					—, Polly A.	Wife-H					F	W	42	M	24	No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
78					—, Lester	Son					M	W	13	S		No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
79					—, Christine	Daughter					F	W	12	S		No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
80					—, Sylvesta	Daughter					F	W	11	S		No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
81					—, Carter	Son					M	W	7	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							none					
82					—, Otis	Son					M	W	5	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							none					
83		174	174		—, Bert	Head	R	5		No	M	W	28	M	24	No	No	Virginia	Virginia	Virginia						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VVVV	W	Yes	
84					—, Sarah C.	Wife-H					F	W	28	M	24	No	Yes	Virginia	Virginia	Virginia						Yes						
85					—, John H.	Son					M	W	2 2/12	S		No		Virginia	Virginia	Virginia							none					
86		175	175		Cupp, Thomas J.	Head	O			Yes	M	W	46	M	20	No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	O	Yes	
87					—, Linda	Wife-H					F	W	51	M	29	No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
88					—, Silas	Son					M	W	22	S		No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VVV	W	Yes	
89					—, Jake	Son					M	W	17	S		No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VVV	W	Yes	
90					—, Barbara E.	Daughter					F	W	16	S		Yes	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
91					—, Sarah A.	Daughter					F	W	13	S		Yes	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
92					—, Mary C.	Daughter					F	W	9	S		Yes		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							none					
93		176	176		Wilder, William	Head	O			Yes	M	W	23	M	18	No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Coal mine	7812	W	Yes	
94					—, Dora	Wife-H					F	W	19	M	14	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
95					—, Ethel	Daughter					F	W	3	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							none					
96					—, James	Son					M	W	1/12	S		No		Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky							none					
97		212	212		Thompson, Klias	Head	O			Yes	M	W	63	M	21	No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Farming	Truck farm	VVVV	O	Yes	
98					—, Martha	Wife-H					F	W	58	M	16	No	No	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					
99					—, Arthur	Son					M	W	20	M	20	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	Laborer	Truck farm	VVVV	W	Yes	
100					—, Connie	Daughter-in-law					F	W	23	M	23	No	Yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky						Yes	none					

ABBREVIATIONS TO BE USED IN COLUMNS INDICATED: (Use no abbreviations for State or country of birth or for mother tongue (Columns 18, 19, 20, and 21))

Col. 6—Indicate the home-maker in each family by the letter "H," following the word which shows the relationship, as "Wife-H."
Col. 7—Owned ..... O; Rented ..... R
Col. 9—Radio set ..... R. Make an entry for families having no radio set.
Col. 10—Male ..... M; Female ..... F
Col. 12—White ..... W; Negro ..... Negro; Mexican ..... Mex; Indian ..... In; Chinese ..... Ch; Japanese ..... Jp
Col. 14—Single ..... S; Married ..... M; Widowed ..... Wd; Divorced ..... D
Other races, spell out in full
Col. 15—Naturalized ..... Na; First papers ..... Fl; Alien ..... A
Col. 17—Employer ..... E; Wage or salary worker ..... W; Working on own account ..... O; Unpaid worker, member of the family ..... NF
Col. 21—World War ..... WW; Spanish-American War ..... Sp; Civil War ..... Civ; Philippine Insurrection ..... Phil; Boxer Rebellion ..... Box; Mexican Expedition ..... Mex

ENTRIES ARE REQUIRED IN THE SEVERAL COLUMNS AS FOLLOWS:

FIGURE B–18. Census Records 1930 with details on Thomas J. Cupp, and Wilders, Miracles and Lees. Source: US Census

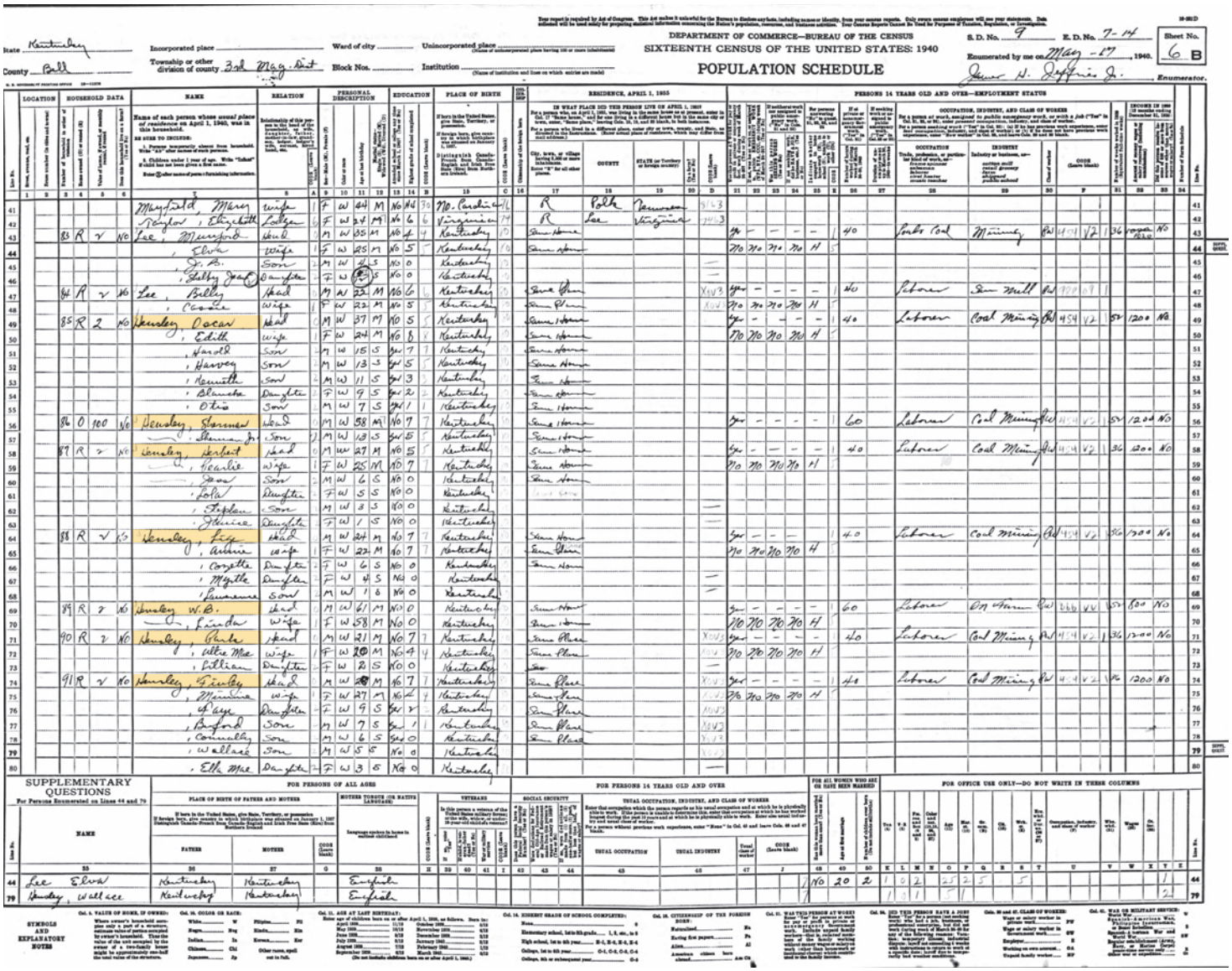
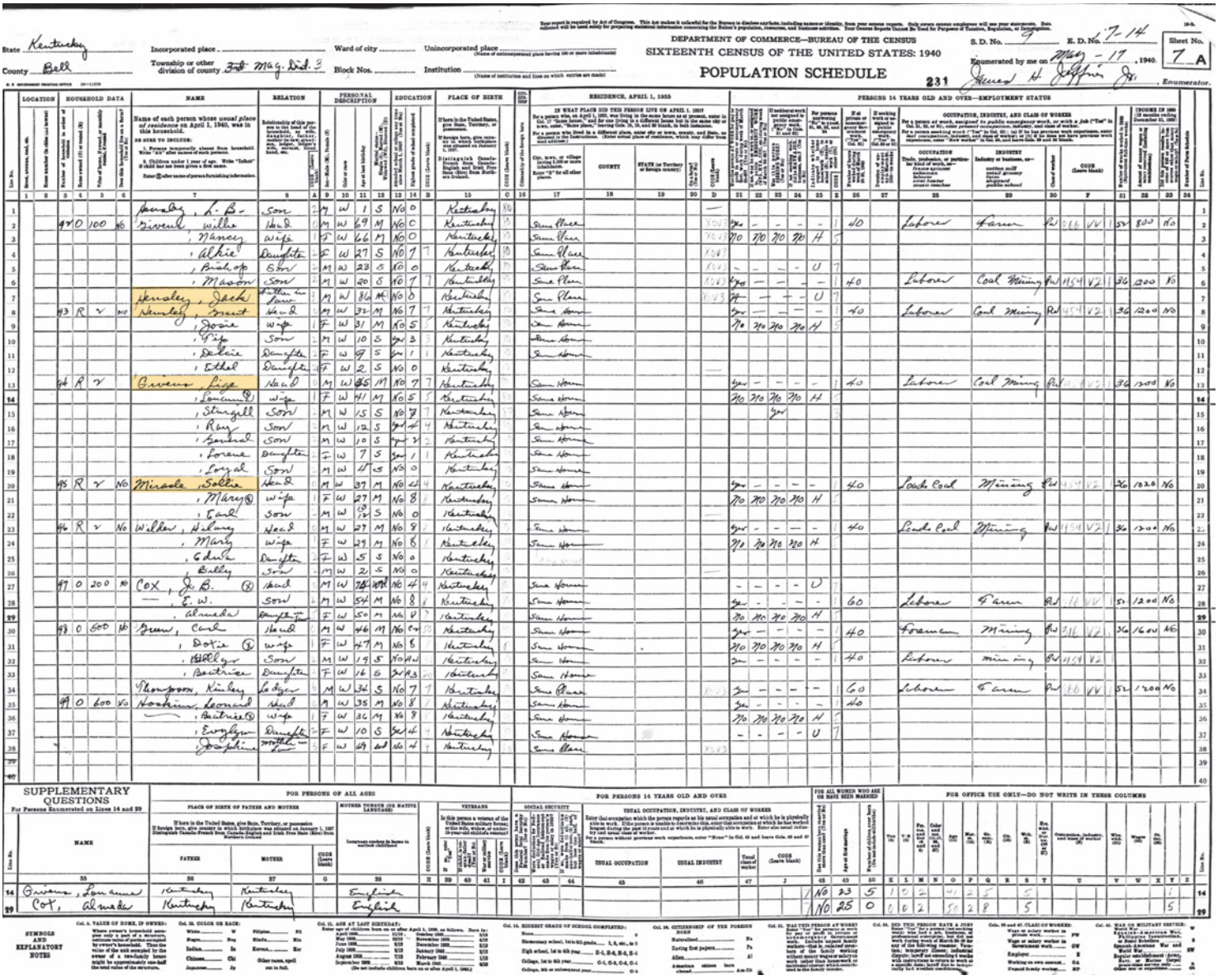


FIGURE B–19. Census Records 1940 with details on Oscar Hensley, Sherman Hensley, Herbert Hensley, Lige Hensley, W.B Hensley, Park Hensley, and Finley Hensley. These men were the last to hold property on Brush Mountain before NPS acquisition, and they are all listed as coal miners, which signals a shift from farming to mining. Source: US Census



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE—BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1940
POPULATION SCHEDULE

State Kentucky
County Bell
Incorporated place
Township or other division of county 3rd Mag. Dist. 3
Ward of city
Block Nos.
Unincorporated place
Institution
S. D. No. 17 14
E. D. No. 7
Sheet No. 7-A
Enumerated by me on May 17, 1940.
231
Enumerator.

Line No.	Location: Street, avenue, road, etc.	Location: House number (in city or town)	Household Data: Number of household in order of visitation	Household Data: Home owned (O) or rented (R)	Household Data: Value of home, if owned, or monthly rental if rented	Household Data: Does this household live on a farm?	Name of each person whose usual place of residence on April 1, 1940, was in this household.	Relation	Personal Description: Sex	Personal Description: Color or race	Personal Description: Age at last birthday	Personal Description: Single, married, widowed, or divorced	Education: Highest grade of school completed	Education: Attended school or college any time since March 1, 1940?	Place of birth: Born in the United States, give State, Territory, or possession. If foreign born, give country in which birthplace was situated on January 1, 1937. Distinguish Canada—French, Canada—English, and Irish, Free State (Eire).	Place of birth: Citizenship of the foreign born	Residence, April 1, 1935: City, town, or village having 5,000 or more inhabitants. Enter "R" for all other places.	Residence, April 1, 1935: County	Residence, April 1, 1935: State (or Territory or foreign country)	Residence, April 1, 1935: Color (Leave blank)	Persons 14 Years Old and Over—Employment Status: Was this person at work for pay or profit during the week of March 24–30?	Persons 14 Years Old and Over—Employment Status: If not at work, was he assigned to a job?	Persons 14 Years Old and Over—Employment Status: If not assigned to a job, was he looking for work?	Persons 14 Years Old and Over—Employment Status: If not looking for work, was he attending school?	Persons 14 Years Old and Over—Employment Status: Is this person working on a public emergency work project?	Persons 14 Years Old and Over—Employment Status: Number of hours worked during week	Persons 14 Years Old and Over—Employment Status: If seeking work or assigned to public emergency work, number of weeks since last regular employment	Occupation, Industry, and Class of Worker: Occupation	Occupation, Industry, and Class of Worker: Industry	Occupation, Industry, and Class of Worker: Class of worker	Occupation, Industry, and Class of Worker: Code (Leave blank)	Income in 1939: Amount of money wages or salary received (including commissions)	Income in 1939: Did this person receive income other than wages or salary?	Line No.
1							Hensley, L. B.	Son	M	W	1	S	No	0	Kentucky	KY																				1
2		49	O	100	No	Hensley, Willie	Head	M	W	69	M	No	C	Kentucky	KY		Same Place			X								40		Laborer	Farm	PW	216	VV	50	800	No	2
3						, Nancy	wife	F	W	66	M	No	0	Kentucky	KY		Same Place			X		70	70	70	70	H	5											3
4						, Alfred	Daughter	F	W	27	S	No	7	Kentucky	KY		Same Place			X																		4
5						, Rudolph	Son	M	W	23	S	No	0	Kentucky	KY		Same Place			X		—	—	—	—	U	7											5
6						, Mason	Son	M	W	20	S	No	7	Kentucky	KY		Same Place			X		Yes	—	—	—	—		40		Laborer	Coal Mining	PW	1154	V2	36	1200	No	6
7						Hensley, Jack	Father-in-Lawer	M	W	86	M	No	0	Kentucky	KY		Same Place			X		Yes	—	—	—	U	7											7
8		43	R	V	No	Hensley, Grant	Head	M	W	32	M	No	7	Kentucky	KY		Same House					Yes	—	—	—	—		40		Laborer	Coal Mining	PW	1154	V2	36	1200	No	8
9						, Dosie	wife	F	W	31	M	No	5	Kentucky	KY		Same House					No	No	No	No	H	5											9
10						, Gip	Son	M	W	10	S	Yes	3	Kentucky	KY		Same House																				10
11						, Dalcie	Daughter	F	W	9	S	Yes	1	Kentucky	KY		Same House																				11
12						, Ethel	Daughter	F	W	2	S	No	0	Kentucky	KY																						12
13		46	R	V		Givens, Lige	Head	M	W	45	M	No	7	Kentucky	KY		Same House					Yes	—	—	—	—		40		Laborer	Coal Mining	PW	1154	V2	36	1200	No	13
14						, Louemma	wife	F	W	41	M	No	5	Kentucky	KY		Same House					No	No	No	No	H	5											14
15						, Sturgell	Son	M	W	15	S	No	7	Kentucky	KY		Same House						Yes														15
16						, Ray	Son	M	W	12	S	Yes	4	Kentucky	KY		Same House																				16
17						, Garland	Son	M	W	10	S	Yes	4	Kentucky	KY		Same House																				17
18						, Lorene	Daughter	F	W	7	S	Yes	1	Kentucky	KY		Same House																				18
19						, Loyal	Son	M	W	11	S	No	0	Kentucky	KY		Same House																				19
20		48	R	V	No	Miracle, Sollie	Head	M	W	37	M	No	4	Kentucky	KY		Same House					Yes	—	—	—	—		40		Coal Coal	Mining	PW	1154	V2	36	1200	No	20
21						, Mary	wife	F	W	27	M	No	8	Kentucky	KY		Same House					No	No	No	No	H	5											21
22						, Earl	Son	M	W	10/12	S	No	0	Kentucky	KY																						22
23		46	R	V	No	Wilder, Hilary	Head	M	W	27	M	No	8	Kentucky	KY		Same House					Yes	—	—	—	—		40		Coal Coal	Mining	PW	1154	V2	36	1200	No	23
24						, Mary	wife	F	W	29	M	No	8	Kentucky	KY		Same House					No	No	No	No	H	5											24
25						, Edna	Daughter	F	W	5	S	No	0	Kentucky	KY																						25
26						, Billy	Son	M	W	2	S	No	0	Kentucky	KY																						26
27		49	O	200	No	COX, J. B.	Head	M	W	78	Wid	No	4	Kentucky	KY		Same House					—	—	—	—	U	7											27
28						—, E. W.	Son	M	W	54	M	No	8	Kentucky	KY		Same House					Yes	—	—	—	—		60		Laborer	Farm	PW	216	VV	52	1200	No	28
29						, Almeda	Daughter-in-law	F	W	50	M	No	8	Kentucky	KY		Same House					No	No	No	No	H	5											29
30		48	O	600	No	Green, Cash	Head	M	W	46	M	No	C+	Kentucky	KY		Same House					Yes	—	—	—	—		40		Foreman	Mining	PW	216	V2	36	1600	No	30
31						, Dosie	wife	F	W	47	M	No	8	Kentucky	KY		Same House					No	No	No	No	H	5											31
32						, Kelly	Son	M	W	19	S	Yes	H+W	Kentucky	KY		Same House					Yes	—	—	—	—		40		Laborer	Mining	PW	1154	V2				32
33						, Beatrice	Daughter	F	W	16	S	Yes	H3	Kentucky	KY		Same House																				33
34						Thompson, Kinley	Lodger	M	W	34	S	No	7	Kentucky	KY		Same House			X		Yes	—	—	—	—		60		Laborer	Farm	PW	216	VV	52	1200	No	34
35		49	O	600	No	Hopkins, Leonard	Head	M	W	35	M	No	8	Kentucky	KY		Same House					Yes	—	—	—	—		40										35
36						, Beatrice	wife	F	W	31	M	No	8	Kentucky	KY		Same House					No	No	No	No	H	5											36
37						, Evelyn	Daughter	F	W	10	S	Yes	4	Kentucky	KY		Same House					—	—	—	—	U	7											37
38						, Josephine	mother-in-law	F	W	69	Wid	No	4	Kentucky	KY		Same Place			X																	38
39																																				39
40																																				40

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS
For Persons Enumerated on Lines 14 and 29

FOR PERSONS OF ALL AGES

Line No.	Name	Place of birth of father	Place of birth of mother	Code (Leave blank)	Mother tongue (or native language)	Code (Leave blank)	Veterans: Is this person a veteran of the United States military forces, or the wife, widow, or under-18-year-old child of a veteran?	Code (Leave blank)
		35	36	37	38	H	39	40
14	Givens, Louemma	Kentucky	Kentucky		English		No	
29	Cox, Almeda	Kentucky	Kentucky		English		No	

FOR PERSONS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER

Line No.	Social Security: Has this person been assigned a Social Security number?	Social Security: Did this person have a Social Security account number before March 24, 1940?	Usual occupation	Usual industry	Usual class of worker	Code (Leave blank)	Hours of work last week	Number of weeks worked in 1939
	I	J	45	46	47	J	48	49
14							23	5
29							25	0

FOR ALL WOMEN WHO ARE OR HAVE BEEN MARRIED

Line No.	For this married woman, how many children has she had?	Number of children living (Own children in household)
	50	51
14		
29		

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY—DO NOT WRITE IN THESE COLUMNS

Line No.	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	Line No.
14		1	5	2		41	2	5		5						1	14
29		1	0	2		50	2	8		5						5	29

SYMBOLS AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

Col. 5. VALUE OF HOME, IF OWNED: Where owner's household occupies only a part of a structure, estimate the value of the entire structure. Where owner's household occupies a farm, estimate the value of the unit occupied by the owner of a two-family house might be approximately one-half the total value of the structure.

Col. 10. COLOR OR RACE: White ... W; Negro ... Neg; Indian ... In; Chinese ... Chi; Japanese ... Jp; Filipino ... Fil; Hindu ... Hin; Korean ... Kor; Other races, spell out in full.

Col. 11. AGE AT LAST BIRTHDAY: Enter age of children born on or after April 1, 1939, as follows. Born in: May 1939 ... 9/12; June 1939 ... 8/12; July 1939 ... 7/12; August 1939 ... 6/12; September 1939 ... 5/12; October 1939 ... 4/12; November 1939 ... 3/12; December 1939 ... 2/12; January 1940 ... 1/12; February 1940 ... 1/12; March 1940 ... 0/12. (Do not include children born on or after April 1, 1940.)

Col. 14. HIGHEST GRADE OF SCHOOL COMPLETED: None ... 0; Elementary school, 1st to 8th grade ... 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8; High school, 1st to 4th year ... 9-1, 9-2, 9-3, 9-4; College, 1st to 4th year ... 9-5, 9-6, 9-7, 9-8; College, 5th or subsequent year ... 9-9+

Col. 15. CITIZENSHIP OF THE FOREIGN BORN: Naturalized ... Pa; Having first papers ... Pa; Alien ... Al; American citizen born abroad ... Am Cit

Col. 16. DID THIS PERSON WORK AT A JOB OR BUSINESS AT ANY TIME LAST WEEK? Enter "Yes" for persons at work during last week, even if only 1 hour. Include persons temporarily absent from work because of vacation, illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, layoff not exceeding 6 weeks, or scheduled to return to work at a specific date, layoff due to temporary lack of work or material shortage which results in the factory closing.

Col. 17. DID THIS PERSON HAVE A JOB BUT NOT AT WORK LAST WEEK? Enter "Yes" if absent from a job or business because of temporary illness, vacation, industrial dispute, layoff not exceeding 6 weeks, or scheduled to report to work within 30 days. Enter "No" if laid off indefinitely, temporary illness indicating disease; layoff not exceeding 6 weeks with instructions to return to work at a specific date; layoff due to temporary lack of work or material shortage which results in the factory closing.

Col. 18. WAS THIS PERSON SEEKING WORK? Enter "Yes" if person was looking for work during the last 4 weeks, including persons who had a job but were laid off temporarily without pay. Enter "No" if person was not looking for work.

Col. 19. IF NOT SEEKING WORK, WAS THIS PERSON ASSIGNED TO A JOB? Enter "Yes" if person was not looking for work but was assigned to a job. Enter "No" if person was not assigned to a job.

Col. 20. IF NOT ASSIGNED TO A JOB, WAS THIS PERSON LOOKING FOR WORK? Enter "Yes" if person was not assigned to a job but was looking for work. Enter "No" if person was not looking for work.

Col. 21. IF NOT LOOKING FOR WORK, WAS THIS PERSON ATTENDING SCHOOL? Enter "Yes" if person was not looking for work but was attending school. Enter "No" if person was not attending school.

Col. 22. IS THIS PERSON WORKING ON A PUBLIC EMERGENCY WORK PROJECT? Enter "Yes" if person was working on a public emergency work project. Enter "No" if person was not working on a public emergency work project.

Col. 23. NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED DURING WEEK: Enter number of hours worked during week, whether at regular or overtime rates.

Col. 24. IF SEEKING WORK OR ASSIGNED TO PUBLIC EMERGENCY WORK, NUMBER OF WEEKS SINCE LAST REGULAR EMPLOYMENT: Enter number of weeks since last regular employment (full time).

Col. 25. OCCUPATION: Trade, profession, or particular kind of work, as—
Farmer, spinner, laborer, bookkeeper, saleslady, civil engineer, minister

Col. 26. INDUSTRY: Industry or business, as—
cotton mill, county grocery, shipyard, public school

Col. 27. CLASS OF WORKER: Wage or salary worker in private work ... PW; Wage or salary worker in Government work ... GW; Employer ... E; Working on own account ... Oa; Unpaid family worker ... UF

Col. 28. CODE (Leave blank)

Col. 29. INCOME IN 1939: Amount of money wages or salary received (including commissions)

Col. 30. Did this person receive income other than wages or salary?

Col. 31. WAS THIS PERSON IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES DURING THE WORLD WAR (April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918)? Enter "Yes" if person was in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard during the World War. Enter "No" if person was not in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard during the World War.

Col. 32. WAS THIS PERSON IN THE MILITARY OR NAVAL FORCES OF THE U.S. ON APRIL 1, 1940? Enter "Yes" if person was in the Regular Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard on April 1, 1940. Enter "No" if person was not in the Regular Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard on April 1, 1940.

FIGURE B–20. Census Records 1940 with details on Jack Hensley, Grant Hensley, Lige Givens (Gibbons), and Sollie Miracle. It seems that Jack Hensley was no longer working, while the other three men were laborers in coal mines. Source: US Census

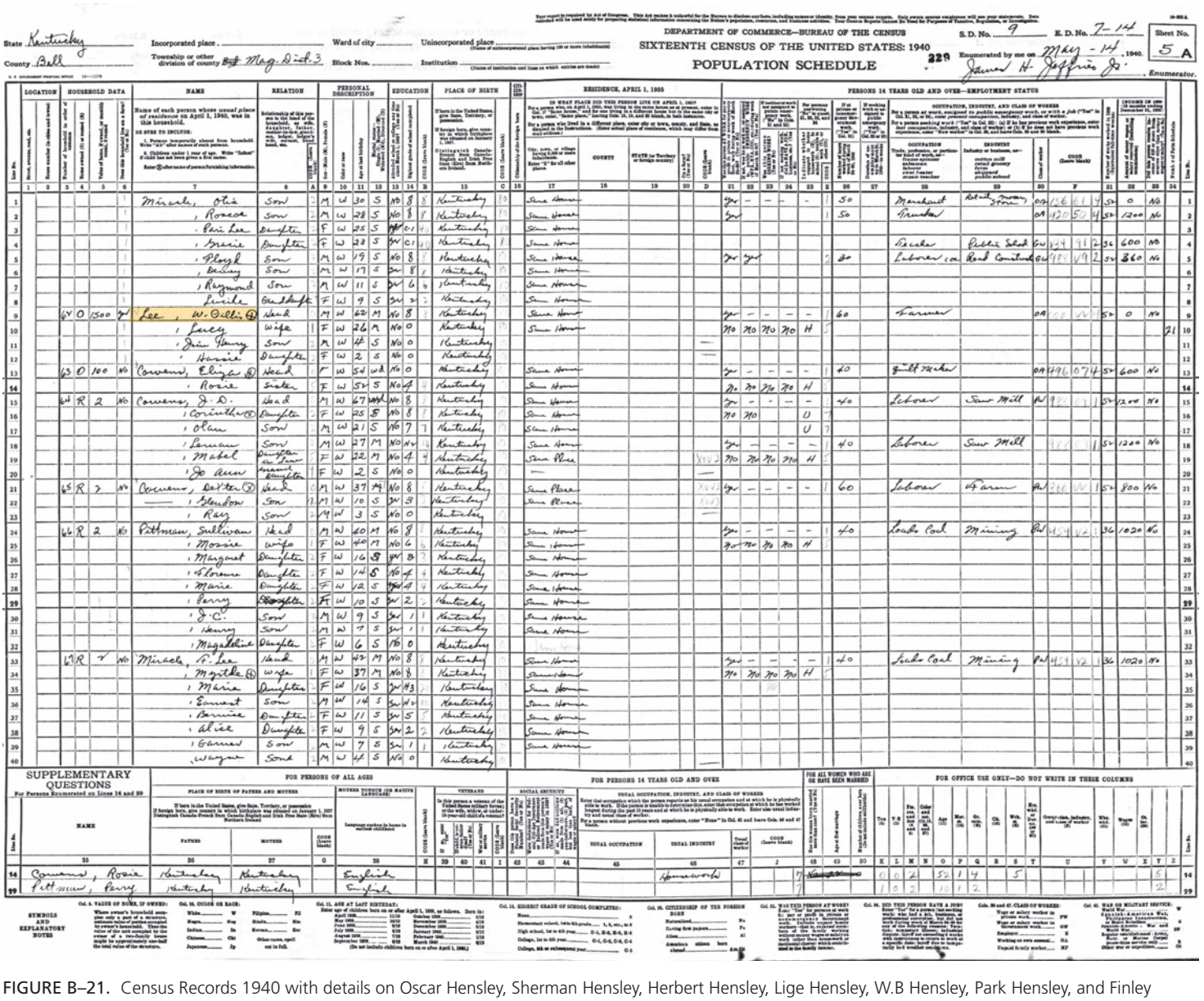


FIGURE B–21. Census Records 1940 with details on Oscar Hensley, Sherman Hensley, Herbert Hensley, Lige Hensley, W.B Hensley, Park Hensley, and Finley Hensley. These men were the last to hold property on Brush Mountain before NPS acquisition. Source: US Census

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Appendix C

IMPORTANT DEED INFORMATION

In researching deed information from the park, several important documents were found. These are included within this appendix. They give information regarding ancestry, land sales and grants, as well as some context about the people that they associated with, as evidenced by sworn affidavits.

Two parcel maps are enclosed that detail the property holdings of Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons when the property was being acquired to create a national park.

C & R. M. BALES 500 acres,
Harlan, No.5497, Ex & V.D.
to J.Ballenger per rect.

WILLIAM OWSLEY, ESQ.
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY,

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

KNOW YE, That by virtue and in consideration of part of warrant from the Harlan County Court:

There is granted by the said Commonwealth unto C. & R.M.Bales, apecs of Francis Hamblin, a certain tract or parcel of land, consisting of Five Hundred acres sy survey, bearing date the 22nd day of February one thousand eight hundred and forty-three, lying and being in the county of Harlan at the head of Martin's Fork and Shalalah Creek on the top of Cumberland Mountain and bounded as followeth, towit: Beginning at four black locusts and a spur ; thence S 72° west 62 poles to two chestnuts ; thence S 30° West 62 poles to a maple; thence S 85° west 34 poles to a chestnut oak; thence S 20° west 20 poles to a chestnut S 68° west 20 poles to three chestnuts; thence S 72° east 100 poles to a black oak and hickory ; thence S 70° east 150 poles to two chestnuts on topy of Cumberland Mountain; thence N 28° east 60 poles to a white oak and black gum; thence N 75° E 20 poles to two white oaks; thence N 70° east 60 poles to a chestnut; thence N 80° E 60 poles to a white oak; thence N 60° east 60 poles to two chestnuts; thence N 70° east 28 poles to a chestnut; thence N 70° east 34 poles to three hickories; thence N 53° east 40 poles to two black oaks and hickory on a cliff near Chadwell's Gap; thence North 100 poles to a chestnut; thence N 87° west 380 poles to a stake; thence S 100 poles to the beginning. WITH ITS appurtenances: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract or parcel of land, with its appurtenances, to the said C & R.M.Bales, his heirs forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the said William Owsley, Esq., Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, hath hereunto set his hand and caused the seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed, at Frankfort on the 6th day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty five and of the Commonwealth the fifty third.

BY the Governor
S/ Ben Hardin

S/ Wm. Owsley
Secretary of State.

1/2 FIGURE C–1. C & R. M. Bales 500 acre grant, detailing the land sold to one Bert Hensley, Senior on May 4, 1903. Source: 2 pages, excerpt from Hensley Sherman Tract 206-2, CUGA Accession 309, Catalogue CUGA 5586

DEED BOOK 44, PAGE 241

GENERAL WARRANTY DEED
DATED: May 4, 1903.

JOHN B. McLINN AND WIFE,
MARY E. McLINN,
HATTIE A.FULKERSON,(MARITAL
STATUS NOT GIVEN)
W. W. BALES AND WIFE, MARY I.BALES
AND J.TEVIS COBB, ASSIGNEE
C.J.Bales + Florence V. Bales

TO

BERT HENSLEY, SENIOR

ACK: May 4, 1903, by John B.McLinn and wife, Mary E.McLinn, and Hattie A.Fulkerson, before Chas.C.Bales, Notary Public, Lee County, Va. COMISSION EXPIRES August 3,1905. NOTARIAL SEAL AFFIXED.
ACK: April 23, 1903, by W.W.Bales and wife, Mary L.Bales, C.J.Bales, Florence V.Bales, and J.Tevis Cobb, assignee, before Jesse Cobb, Clerk Madison County, Ky. Court.
RECORDED: June 30, 1903, in Bell County Court Clerk's Office in deed boo 44, page 241.

CONSIDERATION: That for and in consideration of the sum of $2,000.00 in hand paid, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledge

THE PARTIES OF THE FIRST PART,
Do hereby grant, bargain, sell, release, convey and forever quit claim unto the said Bert Hensley, Sr., all their right, title and interest in and to a certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in Bell County, Ky., towit;

DESCRIPTION: Beginning at 4 black locusts on a spur ; thence S 72 W 62 poles to two chestnuts; thence S 30 W 62 poles to a maple; thence S 85 W 34 poles to a chestnut oak; thence S 68 W 20 poles to 3 chestnuts; thence S 72 E 100 poles to a black oak and hickory; thence S 70 E 150 poles to two chestnuts on the top of Cumberland Mountain; thence N 28 E 60 poles to a white oak and black gum; thence N 75 E 28 poles to two white oaks; thence N 70 E 60 poles to a chestnut; thence N 80 E 60 poles to a white oak; thence N 60 E 60 poles to two chestnuts; thence N 70 E 34 poles to three hickories; thence N 53 E 40 poles to two black oaks and hickory on a cliff near Chadwell's Gap; thence N 100 poles to a chestnut; thence N 87 W 380 poles to a stake; thence S 100 poles to the beginning. Containing 500 acres be the same more or less

RECITAL: Being the same tract or parcel of land that was granted to C. & R. M. Bales, under a grant from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, dated January 6, 1845, #5497, recorded in Book 12,page 18

WARRANTY: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract or parcel of land together with all its appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any way appertaining. It is expressly agreed and understood that the intention of this deed is to convey unto the said party of the second part, all the right, title and interest which the said parties of the first part now ow in said tract of land by whatsoever ways acquired.

SIGNED: W. W. BALES MARY L. BALES C. J. BALES
FLORENCE BALES JOHN B. McLINN MARY E. McLINN
HATTIE A. FULKERSON..J.TEVIS COBB,ASSIGNEE of
C. J. BALES

NOTES: Deed states as follows: "J.Tevis Cobb ,Assignee, in a deed of assignment made by the said C.J.Bales to him of Madison County, Ky. ", Also "J.Tevis Cobb, Assignee of C.J.Bales, and only as such assignee".

2/2

Survey made by M. M. Speak, Route No. 1 Box 37, Rose Hill, Va.

Burton Hensley's Brush Mt., Farm, Being the tract known as the 500 acre survey made and entered by R. M. Bales and lying in Bell Co., Ky., Surveyed by me in Jan. 1906. degrees corrected magnetic to date.

Beginning on a cliff near Chadwell's Gap in Cumb. Mt., the cliff being west of the gap a short distance: then, along the top of the Cumberland Mountain as follows: S 56 W, 40 po. to a stake; then, N 74½ W 34 po. to a stake; then S 81 W 35 po to a chestnut: then S 61 W 20 po. to a stake; then, S 69 W 80 po to a stake; then, S 85 W 86 po. to a stake; then, S 34½ W 72 po to a white-oak, on top of Cumb. Mt., Then leaving Cumb. Mt. and running toward the Brush Mt., N 67 W. 150 po. to a stake: then, N 69 W. 100 po. to a stake on Brush Mt., then along Brush Mt. but not on top at all times as follows: N 71 E 20 po. to a stake; then, N 23 E 20 po. to a stake: then, N 88 E., 34 po. to a stake: then, N 33 E. 62 po. to a stake: then N 75 E, 83 po. to a stake near a chestnut-oak: this is supposed to be near the original Beginning corner of this land, which was "four locusts on a spur", then, N 3 E. 72 po. to a stake on the north side of the Brush Mt., one of the original corners: then, S 84 E. 380 po. to a chestnut-oak: then, S 3 W, 100 po. to the Beginning.

I dont think the above is quite correct: We should have went farther west on Cumb. Mt., and the chaining was done carelessly and hurriedly on some of the lines. M.M.S. (Survey___)

Courses and distances of each "Share" in the partitioning of Burton Hensley's land described on page 43.

Share No. 1. to Silas Hensley. – Wallons Creek. Twila Kid Coal Co

Beginning at a stake Sherman Hensleys corner, then, S 69 W 3 po, then S 85 W, 86 po. to a stake on top Cumb. Mt. then,

1/7 FIGURE C–2. M. M. Speak 500 Survey Narrative completed in January 1906. This document accompanies the survey that delineates land to the heirs of Burton Hensley Sr. Source: 7 pages, excerpt from Hensley Rose & Thompson Extra Deeds, CUGA Accession 309, Catalogue CUGA 5586

N 24 2/10 E 71 po. 15 lks. to a stake in Sherman's line, three poles up the branch from the "still-houseW, then with Shermans lines: S 58 E 61 po 15 lks to a maple, Shermans Corner: then S 16 ¼ E. 25 po. 10 lks, to the Beginning: Containing 21 acres more or less.

Share No. 2. To Floyd Hensley deed.

Beginning at a stake on top of Cumb. Mt. then. N 67 W. 112 po to a stake in Jack Hensley's line: then S 38¼ W 30 po. 10 lks. to a stake in the original (west) line: then, with the old line S 67 E, 115 po. to a white-oak on top of Cumb. Mt. a corner to the original survey: then, N 34½ E. 30 po. to the Beginning: Containing 21 acres, more or less.

Share No. 3. To R. F. Witt or Witts wife Ruth. Witt deed

Beginning at a stake on top of Cumb. Mt. (said stake is N 24 E 5 po. 21 lks. from rock pointer) then, N 67 W. 110 po. to a stake in Jack Hensley's line: then, S 38½ W., 31 po. 15 lks: S. 67 E, 112 po. to a stake on Cumb. Mt. the beginning corner of No. 2,: then, N 34½ E. 31 po. 5 lks to the Beginning: Containing 21 acres, more or less.

Share No. 4. To Carter Hensley. Uba Co. California

Beginning at a stake in a line of No. 1 then, N 67 W. 113 po. 15 lks. to a stake in Jack Hensley's line: then, S 38½ W, 32 po. 20 lks. to a stake a corner to No. 3. Then, S 67 E. 110 po. 10 lks. to the beginning corner of No. 3., Then, N 34½ E., 10 po. 10 lks. to the beginning corner of No. 1, then N 23 3/4 E. 20 po. 20 lks to the Beginning. Containing 21 acres, more or less.

2/7

Share No. 5. To, Minty Hensley's heirs.

Beginning at a stake on a line of No. 1; then, N 67 W. 86 po. 10 lks. to a stake in Jack Hensley's line: then, S 89 W. 14 po. to a chestnut, Jack's corner: then, S 38½ W, 29 po. 5 lks, to a stake in Jacks line: then, S 67 E, 113 po. 15 lks. to a stake, the beginning corner of No. 4,; N 24 2/10 E. 34 po. 6 lks to the Beginning. Containing 21 acres more or less.

Share No. 6. To, Albert Hensley.

Beginning at a stake on top of Cumberland Mt., said stake is in a lane and is a corner to Sherman Hensley's land; then, N 15½ W, 13 po. 15 lks, to a stake in said lane; then, North, 12 po. 17 lks, to a stake in same lane: then, S 84½ W, 11 po. 3 lks, stake at the mouth of said lane: then S 71½ W, 18 po. 18 lks, to two sourwoods: then, S 87 3/4 W 1 po. 15 lks. to a stake: then, N 7 W, 27 po. 5 lks. to a stake: then N 83 E 84 po. 21 lks, to a stake: then S 5 E 60 po. to a stake on top of Cumberland Mt.: then, N 74½ W, 11 po, 15 lks, to a stake on top of the mt.; then, S 81 W, 35 po. to a chestnut on top of Mt. Then, S 61 W. 7 po., 8 lks to the Beginning. Containing 26 acres more or less.

J. R. Osborn
3 miles down Martin creek

Share No. 7. To, Mrs. Jane Osborn: Rob's wife.

Beginning on a cliff near Chadwell's Gap: then, S 56 W 40 po. to a stake on top of Cumb. Mt. then, N 74½ W, 22 po. 10 lks. to a stake on top of the Mt., a corner to Albert Hensley's land: then, N 5 W 54 po. to a stake: then, N 83 E. 64 po. 10 lks to a stake in a line of the old survey: then, with said line, S. 3 W. 44 po. to the Beginning: Containing 21 acres more or less.

3/7

Share No. 8. To, Lily Hensley. (Smith)

Beginning at a stake in the east line of the original survey: then, with said line, N 3 E. 56 po. to a small chestnut-oak on the Brush Mt. a corner to the original survey: then, then, with the north line of old survey N 84 W 60 p. 10 lks., to a stake in said line, then, S 7 E, 68 po. 20 lks. to a stake in a line of No. 7: then N 83 E, 64 po. 10 lks, to the Beginning: Containing 21 acres more or less.

Share No. 9. To, Melissa Crider. (Hensley)

Beginning at a stake in a line of No. 7, then, N 7 W. 68 po. 20 lks, to a stake in the old north line, said stake a corner to No. 8: then with the old line N 84 W 49 po. 19 lks. to a stake in said line: then, S 7 E. 74 po. to a stake in Albert Hensley's line: then with "Als" line, N 83 E, 32 po. 20 lks. to a stake, a corner to Al. Hensley's land: then, S 5 E 6 po. to a stake, a corner to No. 7; then, N 83 E, 15 po. 5 lks to the Beginning: Containing 21 acres more or less.

Share No. 10. To, Patti Smith. (Hensley)

Beginning at a stake in Al. Hensley's line: then, N 7 W. 74 po. to a stake in the old line a corner No. 9: then, N 84 W 43 po. 15 lks to a stake in the old north line; then leaving the old line, S 7 E, 84 po. to a stake in Al Hensley's line: then, N 83 E, 42 po. 20 lks, to the Beginning. Containing 21 acres more or less.

4/7

Share No. 11. To, Emily Edwards. (Hensley)

Beginning at a stake in Sherman Hensley's line near a branch; then, N 7 W 28 po. 20 lks to a stake in section two of the base line. (See map) then, with said baseline, S 83 W 67 po. to a stake in Jack Hensleys line; then with Jack's lines, S 20 E 5 po. 5 lks. to a stake, Jack's corner: then S 51 5/10 W, 28 po. to a chestnut oak; then, S 89 W, 10 po. to a stake, a corner to share No. 5; then, S 67 E, 86 po. 10 lks, to a stake in a line of No. 1; then, N 24 2/10 E. 17 po. 5 lks to a stake in Sherman Hensley's line: then with Sherman's lines as follows: N 58 W, 3 po. to a stone at the still-house; Sherman's corner; then, N 36 8/10 E. 12 po. 8 lks to three services on the south side of the branch; then, N 51 E. 9 po. 15 lks. to a stake on the south side of the branch; then, N 84½ E 13 po. 17 lks to the Beginning: Containing 21 acres more or less.

Share No. 12. To, Nicey Hensley. (Shermans wife)

Beginning at the beginning corner of No. 11, then, N 7 W, 28 po. 20 lks, to a stake, a corner to No. 11, then, N 83 E, 88 po 5 lks to a stake in a line of No. 10, also a corner to No. 16; then, S 7 E, 24 po. 10 lks, to a stake in Al Hensley's line: said stake is a corner to No. 10; then S 83 W, 10 po. to a stake, a corner to Al. Hensley's land; S 7 E 27 po. 5 lks. to a stake, Al's corner in Sherman's line; then, with Sherman Hensley's lines as follows: N. 87 3/4 W 23 po. 10 lks. to the forks of a branch; then, N 69½ W 40 po. to a stake on the north side of a branch: then, S 84½ W 20 po. to the Beginning: Containing 21 acres, more or less.

5/7

Share No. 13. To, Wilson Hensley.

Beginning at a stake in Jack Hensley's line; then, N 20 W 105 po. to a stake on the north side of the Brush Mt. in the old 380 po. line, said stake is a corner to Jack Hensley's 100 acre tract; then, with the old line S 84 E, 52 po. 5 lks. to a stake in the old line; then, leaving the old line, S 7 E 90 po. 20 lks. to a stake in section 2 of the base line: then, S 83 W 27 po. and 5 links to the Beginning. Containing 21 acres more or less.

Share No. 14. To, Fielden Hensley.

Beginning at a stake in part 2 of the base line, a corner to No. 13, then, N 7 W, 90 po. 20 lks. to a stake in the old line; then, with the old line, S 84 E. 40 po. 20 lks to a stake in said line: then, S 7 E. 81 po. 5 lks. to a stake in the base line: then, S 83 W 40 po. to the Beginning: Containing 21 acres more or less.

Share No. 15, to, Nancy Hensley.

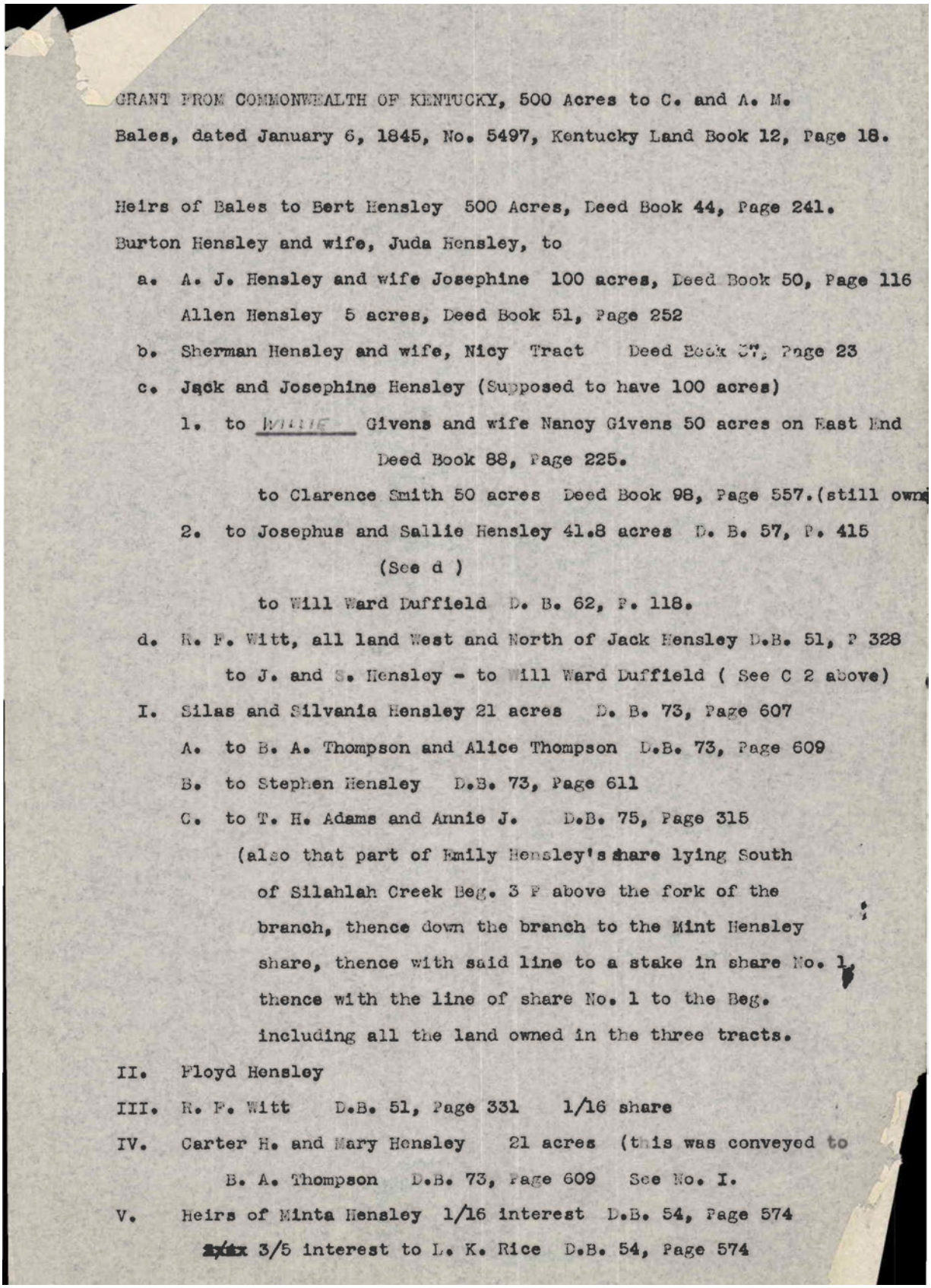
Beginning at a stake in part 2 of the base-line said stake a corner to No. 14, then N 7 W, 81 po. 5 lks, to a stake in the old 380 po. line: a corner, to No. 14: then, with the old line, S 84 E, 46 po. 10 lks. to a stake in said line: then S 7 E, 70 po. 20 lks to a stake in part 2 of the base line: then with said line S 83 W 45 po. to the Beginning. Containing 21 acres more or less.

6/7

Share No. 16, to, Margaret Middleton's heirs.

Beginning at a stake in part 2 of the base line a corner to No. 15, N 7 W 70 po. 20 lks to a stake in the old 320 po. line; a corner to No. 15; then with the old line S 84 E. 52 po. 20 lks to a stake in said line: a corner to No. 10, then, S 7 E, with a line of No. 10, 59 po, 15 lks, to a stake, the beginning of part 2 of the base-line also a corner to No. 12; then, S 83 W 51 po. 11 lks, to the beginning. Containing 21 acres more or less.

7/7



GRANT FROM COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, 500 Acres to C. and A. M. Bales, dated January 6, 1845, No. 5497, Kentucky Land Book 12, Page 18.

Heirs of Bales to Bert Hensley 500 Acres, Deed Book 44, Page 241.

Burton Hensley and wife, Juda Hensley, to

a. A. J. Hensley and wife Josephine 100 acres, Deed Book 50, Page 116
Allen Hensley 5 acres, Deed Book 51, Page 252

b. Sherman Hensley and wife, Nicy Tract Deed Book 87, Page 23

c. Jack and Josephine Hensley (Supposed to have 100 acres)

1. to Willie Givens and wife Nancy Givens 50 acres on East End
Deed Book 88, Page 225.
to Clarence Smith 50 acres Deed Book 98, Page 557.(still own

2. to Josephus and Sallie Hensley 41.8 acres D. B. 57, P. 415
(See d)
to Will Ward Duffield D. B. 62, P. 118.

d. R. F. Witt, all land West and North of Jack Hensley D.B. 51, P 328
to J. and S. Hensley - to Will Ward Duffield (See C 2 above)

I. Silas and Silvania Hensley 21 acres D. B. 73, Page 607

A. to B. A. Thompson and Alice Thompson D.B. 73, Page 609

B. to Stephen Hensley D.B. 73, Page 611

C. to T. H. Adams and Annie J. D.B. 75, Page 315
(also that part of Emily Hensley's share lying South of Silahlah Creek Beg. 3 P above the fork of the branch, thence down the branch to the Mint Hensley share, thence with said line to a stake in share No. 1, thence with the line of share No. 1 to the Beg. including all the land owned in the three tracts.

II. Floyd Hensley

III. R. F. Witt D.B. 51, Page 331 1/16 share

IV. Carter H. and Mary Hensley 21 acres (this was conveyed to B. A. Thompson D.B. 73, Page 609 See No. I.

V. Heirs of Minta Hensley 1/16 interest D.B. 54, Page 574
3/5 interest to L. K. Rice D.B. 54, Page 574

1/2 FIGURE C–3. M. M. Speak 500 Survey Details Update, date unknown. This document delineates the deeding and sales of land from the original 500 acre grant. Source: 2 pages, excerpt from Hensley Sherman Tract 206-1, CUGA Accession 309, Catalogue CUGA 5586

VI. A. L. Hensley 26 acres D.B. 57, Page 291
to W. G. Lee D.B. 85, Page 510
to T. J. Cupp (106 acres) D.B. 124, Page 34
to W. G. Lee D.B. 142, Page 203
(affidavit of descent Cupp heirs D.B. 141, P. 513)

VII. Jane Osborne
to James G. Hensley D.B. 55, Page 98 (See No. XIII)

VIII. Lillie Hensley D.B. 52, Page 337.
to E. O. Lail D.B. 52, Page 339 (See D.B. 52, Page 340)

IX. George and Melissa Crider
to James G. Hensley D.B. 55, Page 98 (See No. XIII)

X. Pattie Hensley D.B. 54, Page 536

XI. Emily Edwards
to James S. Hensley D.B. 55, Page 98 (See No. XIII)

XII. Nicey Hensley D.B. 57, Page 22

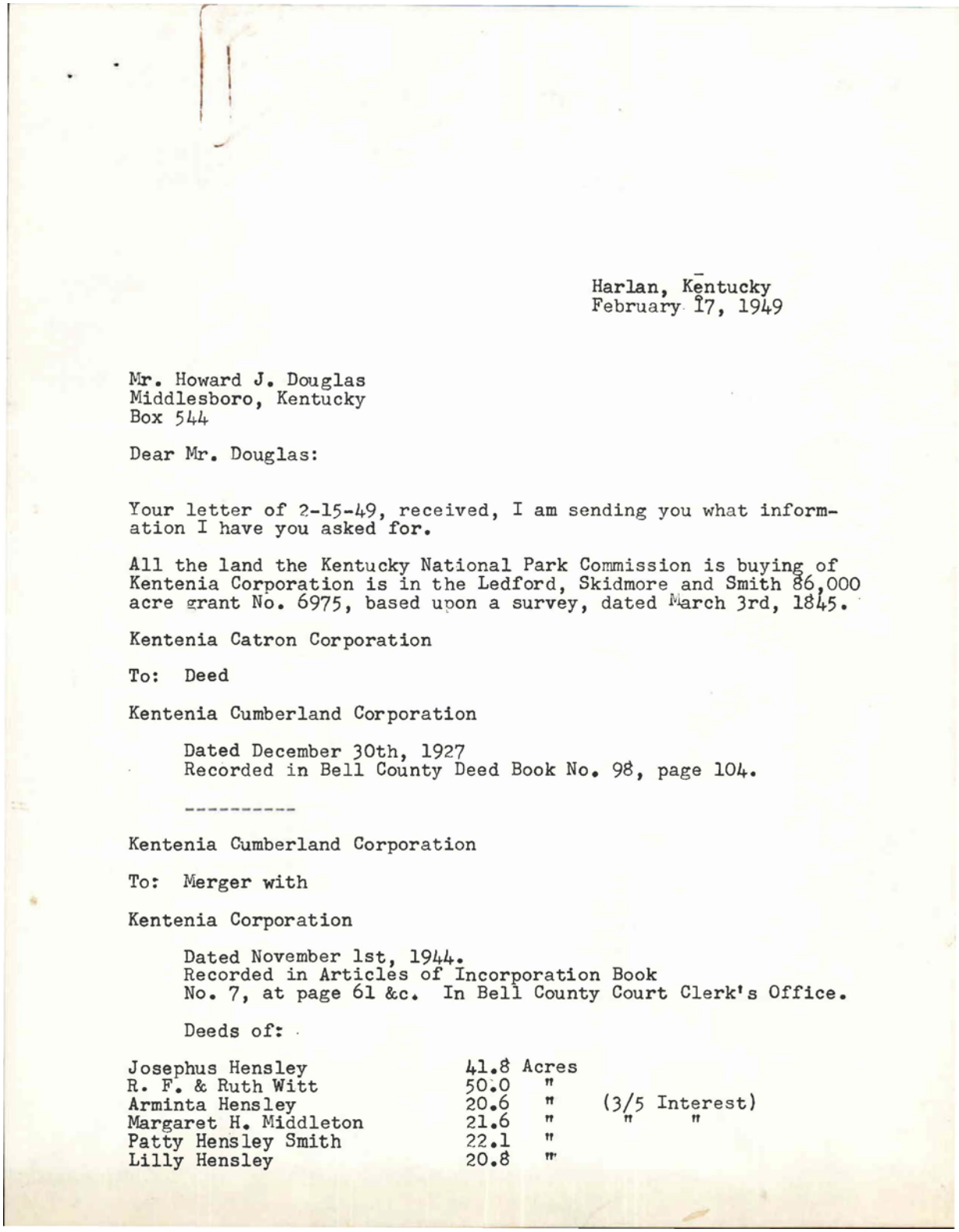
XIII. Wilson Hensley
to James S. Hensley D.B. 55, Page 98 5/16 shares
to Abraham and Mary Miracle D.B. 55, Page 571 2/16 shares
plus the Campbell Givens interest of 1/2 acre.
to Will Gibbons D.B. 88 Page 224 2/16 interest

XIV. W. B. Hensley D.B. 77, Page 216

XV. Nancy Hensley D.B. 51, Page 319
to Fielding and Matilda Hensley D.B. 51, Page 323
to B. F. Kincaid Com. D.B. 4, Page 259
to Burton Hensley D.B. 77, Page 217

XV. Margaret Middleton

2/2



Harlan, Kentucky
February 17, 1949

Mr. Howard J. Douglas
Middlesboro, Kentucky
Box 544

Dear Mr. Douglas:

Your letter of 2-15-49, received, I am sending you what information I have you asked for.

All the land the Kentucky National Park Commission is buying of Kentenia Corporation is in the Ledford, Skidmore and Smith 86,000 acre grant No. 6975, based upon a survey, dated March 3rd, 1845.

Kentenia Catron Corporation

To: Deed

Kentenia Cumberland Corporation

Dated December 30th, 1927
Recorded in Bell County Deed Book No. 98, page 104.

Kentenia Cumberland Corporation

To: Merger with

Kentenia Corporation

Dated November 1st, 1944.
Recorded in Articles of Incorporation Book
No. 7, at page 61 &c. In Bell County Court Clerk's Office.

Deeds of:

Josephus Hensley	41.8 Acres	
R. F. & Ruth Witt	50.0 "	
Arminta Hensley	20.6 "	(3/5 Interest)
Margaret H. Middleton	21.6 "	" "
Patty Hensley Smith	22.1 "	
Lilly Hensley	20.8 "	

1/4 FIGURE C–4. Purchase of a portion of the original 500 acres on February 15th, 1949 by the Kentucky National Park Commission. This document details the passage of land dating back to the original 500 acre grant. Source: 4 pages, excerpt from Hensley Sherman Tract 206-2, CUGA Accession 309, Catalogue CUGA 5586

2

Mr. Howard J. Douglas

The above tracts lie in Bell County, Ky., on the head waters of Shillalah Creek and Martins Fork, between the top of the Cumberland and top of Brush Mountains. And are covered by the C.& R. M. Bales 500 acre grant No. 5497, dated 2-22-1843. Except 4.8 acres lie outside of the Bales patent and is only covered by the 86,000 acre grant.

Burton Hensley Sr. conveyed parts of the above 500 acre grant to R. F. Witt & wife, Sherman Hensley, Jack Hensley and Allen Hensley.

He was the father of 17 children:

1. A. J. (Jack) Hensley
2. Allen Hensley
3. Fielding Hensley
4. Nancy, Wife of James Hensley
5. Patty, wife of Dan Smith, divorced in Harlan County and married Wash Fee.
6. Margaret, wife of L. T. Middleton, who died leaving to survive them:
    1. Berry Middleton
    2. Chad Middleton
    3. Nancy, wife of J. H. Dingus
    4. Minerva, wife of John Sergener
    5. Arminta, wife of James Middleton
7. Arminta, wife of Calvin Hensley, who died leaving to survive her:
    1. Ewell V. Hensley
    2. Nancy, Wife of John Cole
    3. Margaret, Wife of Joseph Madden,
    4. Mary Hensley
    5. John Hensley
8. Emily, wife of Robert Edwards.

Second Set:

9. Wilson Hensley,
10. Silas Hensley
11. Carter Hensley
12. Floyd Hensley
13. Rutha, Wife of Robert Witt,
14. Lilly Hensley
15. Jane, wife of Robert Osborne
16. Nicy, wife of Sherman Hensley
17. Malissa, wife of George Crider.

2/4

Mr. Howard J. Douglas

Burton Hensley sr., and Juda Hensley by the following deeds conveyed to his children and grand children in each deed an undivided one-sixteenth interest in the said Bales 500 acre grant, after deducting therefrom the four boundaries sold by them by Title Bond and deeds to R. F. Witt, Sherman Hensley, Jack Hansley and Allen Hensley.

Deed: Burton Hensley Sr., and wife to R. F. Witt and wife, dated 8-21-1906, Deed Book No. 51, page 331.

R. F. Witt & Wife to John B. Lewis, dated June 15th, 1908. Deed Book No. 54, at page 456, in Bell County.

Josephus Hensley & Wife to Deed Will Ward Duffield, dated January 11th, 1911. Recorded in Bell County in Deed Book No. 62, page 119.

Will Ward Duffield to Charles Henry Davis, Trustee, dated May 17th, 1911, recorded in Deed Book No. 58, page 131, Bell County.

Charles Henry Davis to Kentenia Corporation, Deed Dated March 17th, 1913, recorded in Deed Book No. 58, at page 167.

Margaret Middletons Heirs (3/5) 21.6 acres Share No. 16, in division was allotted to the heirs of Margaret Middleton, deceased: Minerva Middleton Sergener and John Sergener, her husband, and Mintie Middleton and James Middleton, her husband to L. K. Rice, dated 8-26-08, Recorded in Deed Book No. 54, page 638, in Bell County.

J. H. Dingus & wife, Nancy Middleton Dingus, his wife, deed dated 9-1-08, recorded in Deed Book No. 54, page 637 to L. K. Rice.

Lawrence K. Rice & wife, conveyed to Kentenia Corporation, dated 8-30-09, Recorded in Deed Book No. 58, page 96, conveyed an undivided 3/5 interest in the 21.6 acres.

Arminta Hensley's Heirs (3/5) 20.6 acres, Share No. 5 in division of Bales 500 acre. Ewell V. Hensley and wife, Mary Madden Hensley, Nancy Hensley Cole and husband, John Cole and Margaret Hensley Madden and husband, Joseph Madden to L. K. Rice, by deed dated 9-3-1908, Recorded in Deed Book No. 55, page 575, in Bell County.

L. K. Rice to Kentenia Corporation, dated 8-30-1909, recorded in Deed Book No. 58, page 96. Conveyed 3/5 interest or 20.6 acres.

3/4

4

Mr. Howard J. Douglas

Patty Hensley Fee 22.10 acres tract Share No. 10, in division. Patty Hensley Fee & Husband, G. W. Fee to L. K. Rice, dated 4-12-1909. Recorded in Deed Book No. 57, page 606 Bell County.

Lawrence K. Rice & Wife to Kentenia Corporation, dated 8-30-09. Recorded in Deed Book No. 58, page 96. Conveys 22.10 acre tract.

Lilly Hensley 20.8 acre tract Share No. 8 in division. Lilly Hensley sold her interest to Wilson Hensley in the Bales 500 acre grant and the deed was not recorded. Hensley too sold to E. O. Lail.

Lilly Hensley, single to E. O. Lail, dated 6-6-06, recorded in Deed Book No. 52, page 339 in Bell County.

Lilly Hensley single and Wilson Hensley and wife, dated 1-15-07, to deed E. O. Lail. Recorded in Deed Book No. 52, page 340.

E. O. Lail to deed Charles Henry Davis, Trustee, dated January 17th, 1907, Recorded in Deed Book No. 52, page 342. Conveys all interest in the Bales 500 acre grant.

Charles Henry Davis, Trustee to Kentenia Corporation, dated July 14th, 1908. Recorded in Deed Book No. 58, page 1, Bell County.

I hope you will find the above references helpful in making the abstract. If you need any other information about this property, don't hesitate to write me.

Yours truly

E. V. Howard

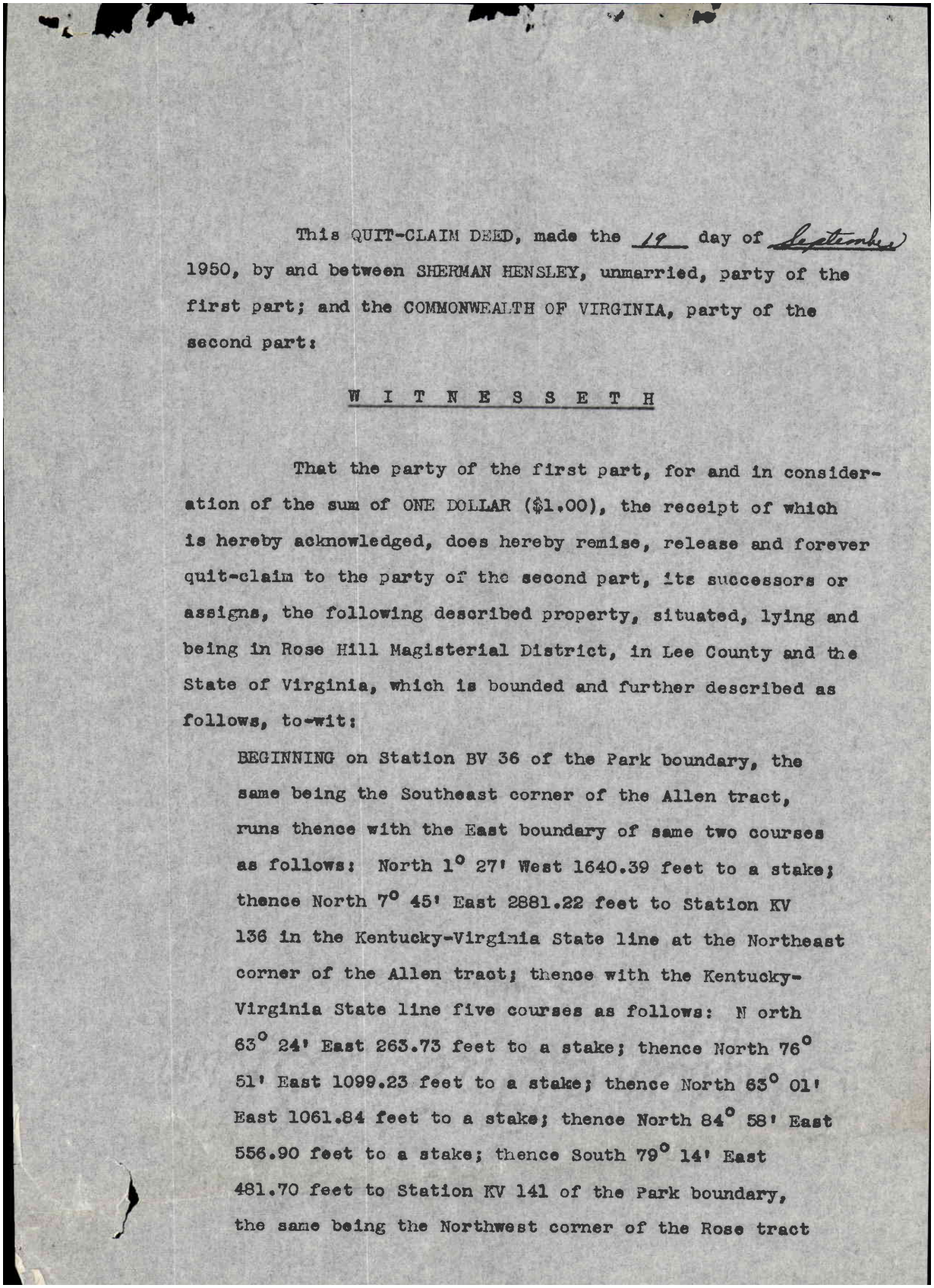
E. V. Howard

EVH/v

P.S. Nearly all of the people in the Hensley settlement made quit-claim deeds to the 86,000 acre grant in addition to the above deeds to Charles Henry Davis trustee.

E. V. Howard

4/4



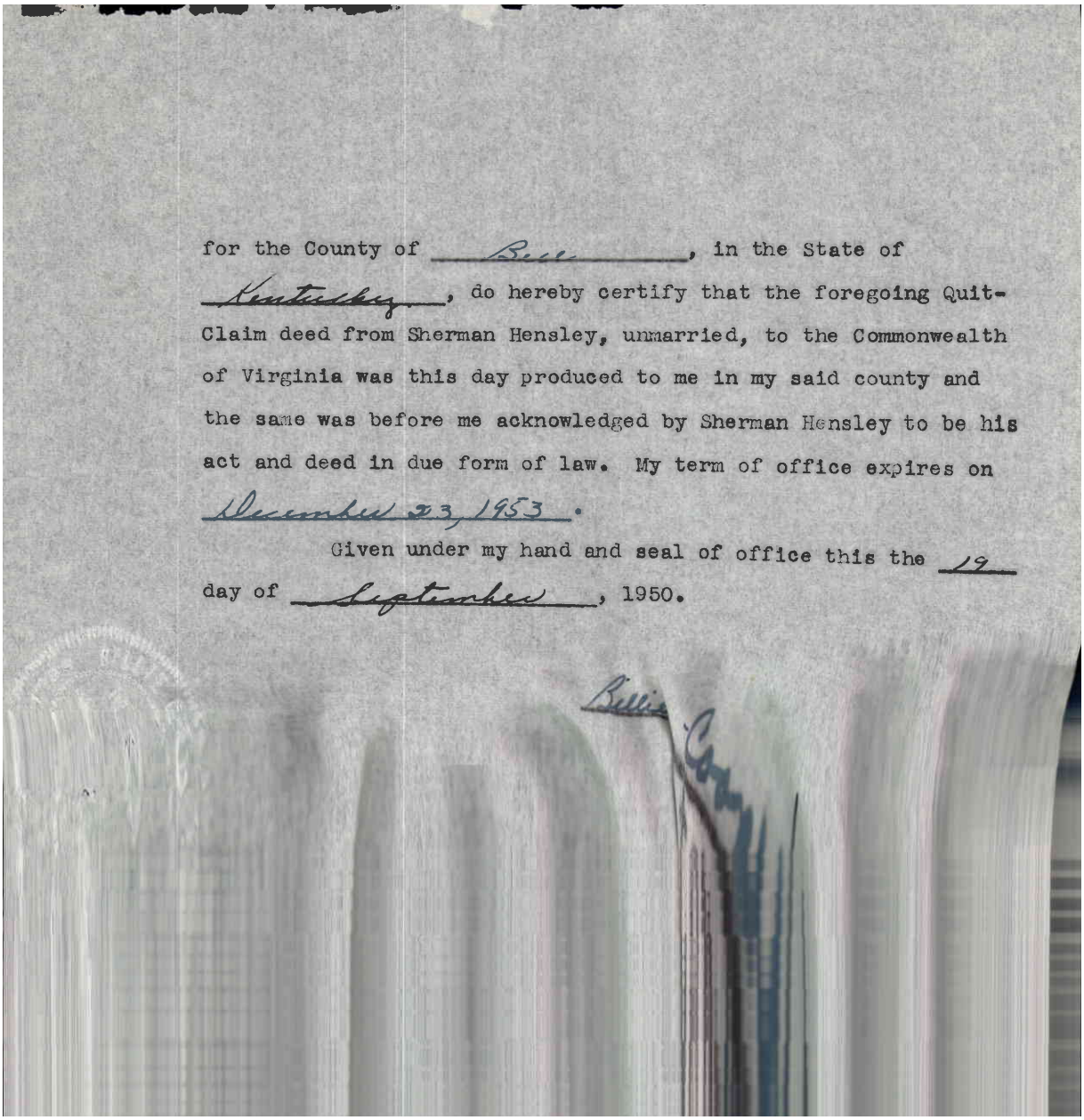
This QUIT-CLAIM DEED, made the 19 day of September 1950, by and between SHERMAN HENSLEY, unmarried, party of the first part; and the COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, party of the second part:

W I T N E S S E T H

That the party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of ONE DOLLAR ($1.00), the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, does hereby remise, release and forever quit-claim to the party of the second part, its successors or assigns, the following described property, situated, lying and being in Rose Hill Magisterial District, in Lee County and the State of Virginia, which is bounded and further described as follows, to-wit:

BEGINNING on Station BV 36 of the Park boundary, the same being the Southeast corner of the Allen tract, runs thence with the East boundary of same two courses as follows: North 1° 27' West 1640.39 feet to a stake; thence North 7° 45' East 2881.22 feet to Station KV 136 in the Kentucky-Virginia State line at the Northeast corner of the Allen tract; thence with the Kentucky-Virginia State line five courses as follows: North 63° 24' East 263.73 feet to a stake; thence North 76° 51' East 1099.23 feet to a stake; thence North 83° 01' East 1061.84 feet to a stake; thence North 84° 58' East 556.90 feet to a stake; thence South 79° 14' East 481.70 feet to Station KV 141 of the Park boundary, the same being the Northwest corner of the Rose tract

1/3 FIGURE C–5. Sherman Hensley quit claim of property to the Commonwealth of Virginia. Source: 3 pages, excerpt from Hensley Sherman Tract 206-2, CUGA Accession 309, Catalogue CUGA 5586

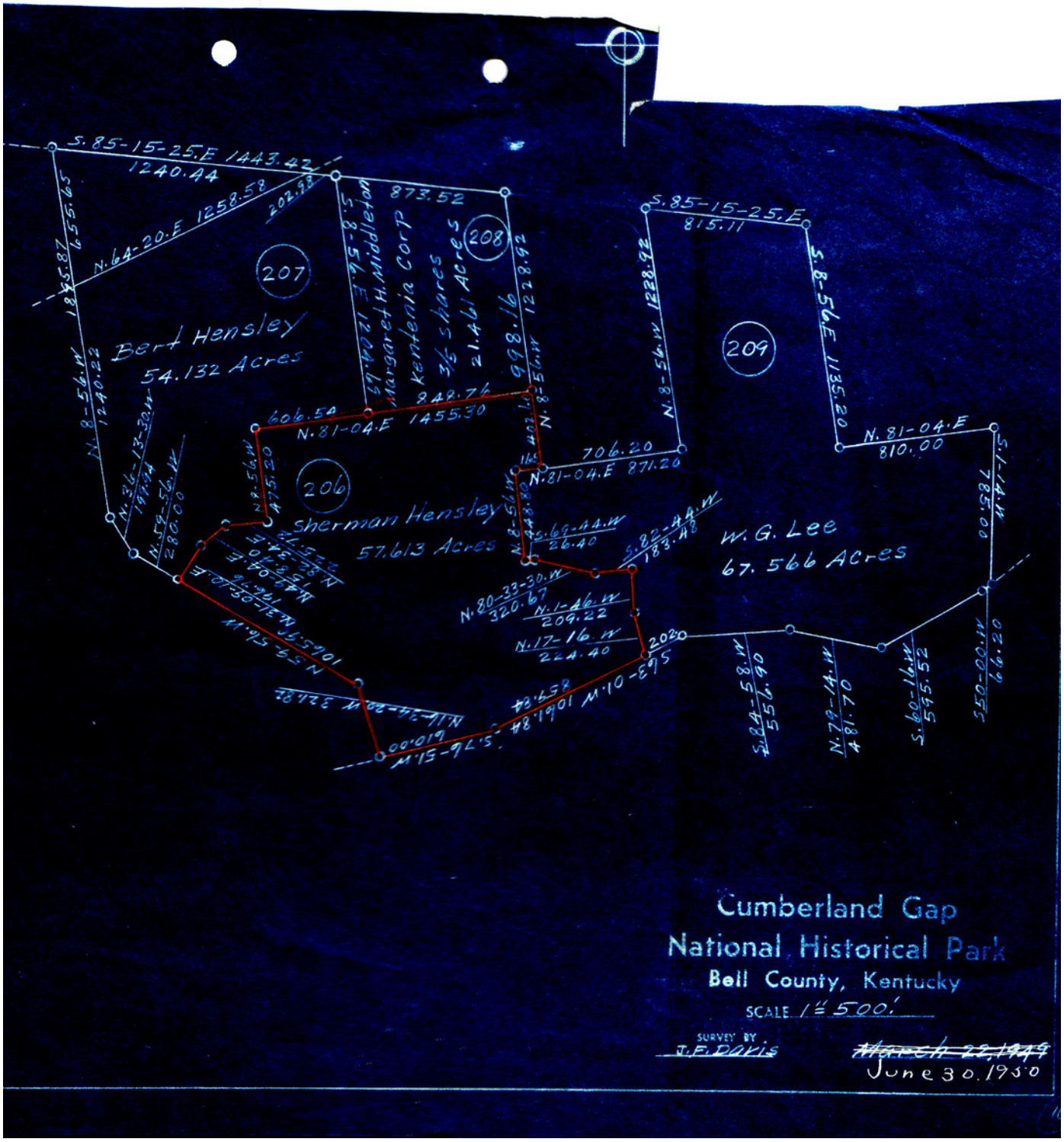


for the County of Bell, in the State of Kentucky, do hereby certify that the foregoing Quit-Claim deed from Sherman Hensley, unmarried, to the Commonwealth of Virginia was this day produced to me in my said county and the same was before me acknowledged by Sherman Hensley to be his act and deed in due form of law. My term of office expires on December 23, 1953.

Given under my hand and seal of office this the 19 day of September, 1950.

Billie Cornett

2/3


S. 85-15-25.E 1443.42
1240.44
N. 64-20.E 1258.58
202.98
1855.87
1551.65
N. 8-56.W 1240.22
207
Bert Hensley
54.132 Acres
873.52
208
Kentenia Corp
3½ shares
21.401 Acres
998.16
1228.62
N. 8-56.W
S. 8-56.E 1204.15
Hattie H. Hatfield
Margaret H. Hatfield
849.76
606.54
N. 81-04.E 1455.30
N. 36-13-30.W 14.34
N. 52-56.W 280.00
N. 8-56.W 475.20
206
Sherman Hensley
57.613 Acres
N. 8-56.W 443.80
402.1
165
706.20
N. 81-04.E 871.20
S. 85-15-25.E 815.11
N. 8-56.W 1228.72
209
S. 8-56.E 1135.20
N. 81-04.E 810.00
S. 1-14.W 785.00
S. 82-44.W 183.48
S. 69-44.W 26.40
W. G. Lee
67.566 Acres
N. 80-33-30.W 320.67
N. 1-46.W 209.22
N. 17-16.W 224.40
2020
S. 24-55.W 550.40
N. 69-41.W 407.18
S. 60-16.W 545.52
S. 50-00.W 66.20
Cumberland Gap
National Historical Park
Bell County, Kentucky
SCALE 1" = 500'
SURVEY BY
J. F. Davis
March 22, 1949
June 30, 1950

3/3

WILL GIBBONS AND WIFE, NANCY GIBBONS, TRACT No. 205

TO THE KENTUCKY NATIONAL PARK COMMISSION FOR

THE USE AND BENEFIT OF THE UNITED STATES:

I hereby certify that I have examined all the records in the jurisdiction where the captioned land lies, which land is included in deed from JAMES HENSLEY AND WIFE, LUCK HENSLEY, AND Dated January 10,1908, recorded in deed book 88, page 224, and from Jack Hensley et ux Josephine Hensley dated 22 day of January, 1908, and recorded in deed book 88, page 225, abstract of which deed is found on page 7 of attached abstract, which abstract correctly shows all matters affecting or relating to the title to said property, found of record in said jurisdiction, including deeds, title bonds, land contracts, mortgates, released or unreleased, notices of pending suits, materialman's or Mechanic's liens, executions, attachments, taxes, tax sales, tax deeds, and any and all defects or irregularities of every kind in the title to said property shown of record by the indexes to the records in said jurisdiction:

TITLE IN WILL GIBBONS AND WIFE, NANCY GIBBONS

ESTATE: FEE SIMPLE TITLE

RESTRICTIONS: NONE

VENDORS LIEN: NONE

MORTGAGES NONE

ADVERSE CONVEYANCE: NONE

MECHANIC'S OR MATERIAL NONE

EXECUTIONS: None

PENDING SUITS None

DESCRIPTION: AS SHOWN ON CAPTION PAGE HEREOF

TAXES None

It is my opinion that title to said property is vested in fee simple in Will Gibbons and wife, Nancy Gibbons now in possession thereof, and is free from all liens and incumbrances except as above set out.

This the 18 day of July 194 9.

R. C. Madden ATTORNEY.

1/11 FIGURE C–6. Collection of documents demonstrating that Willie and Nancy Gibbons own a parcel of property on Brush Mountain. Source: 11 pages, excerpt from Gibbons Tract, CUGA Accession 309, Catalogue CUGA 5586

PROPERTY OF W. M. GIBBONS

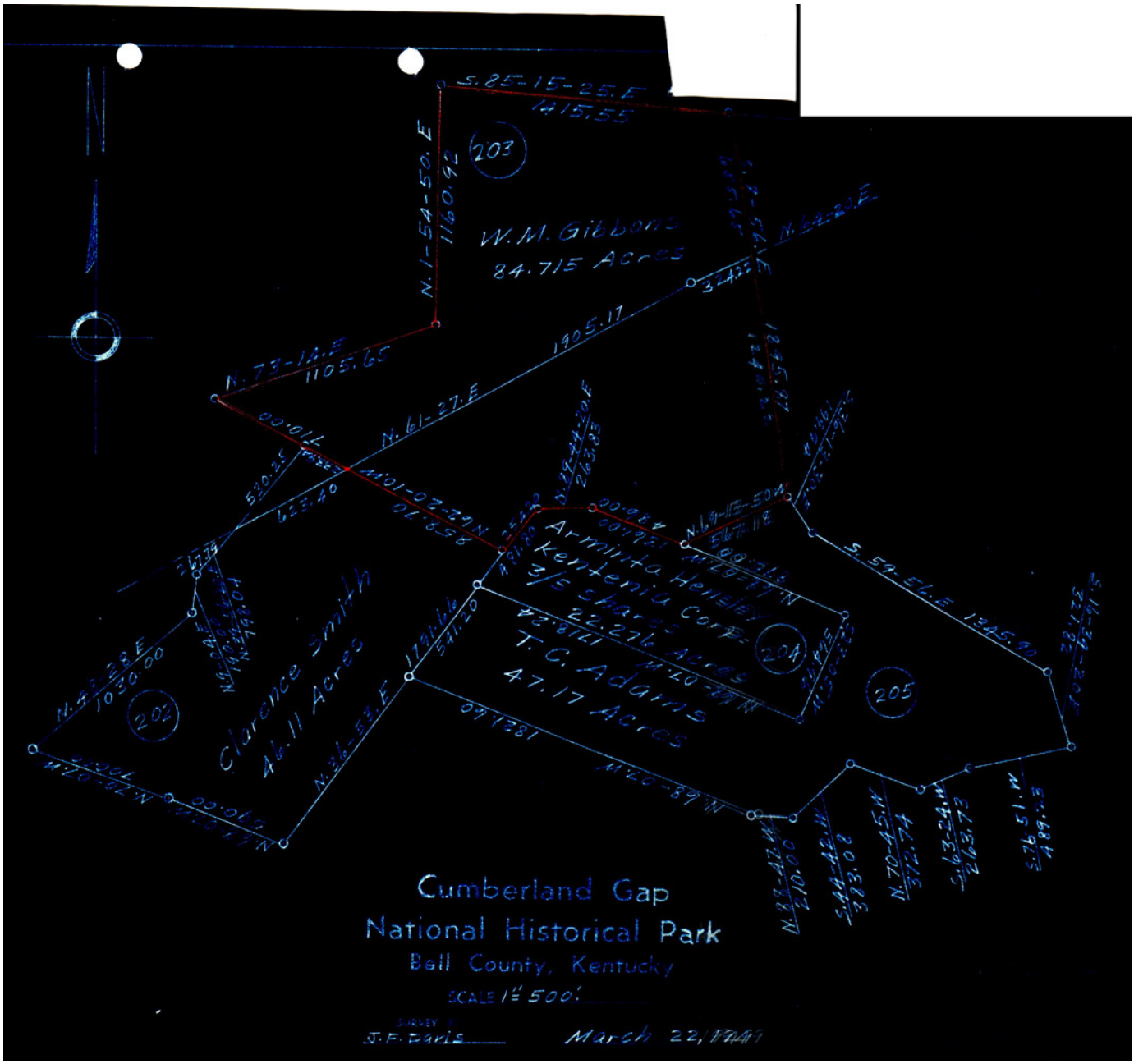
TRACT NO. 205

Beginning at the Southeast corner of the Clarence Smith tract No. 208, the position of said point in terms of Tennessee Plane Coordinate System is: Y equals 837,972.48, X equals 2,725,261.05 runs thence with the Northeast boundary of the Clarence Smith tract No. 208, and the Kentenia boundary North 68° 20' 10" West 1588.70 feet to a point in the Kentenia Corporation line; thence with the Kentenia Corporation boundary four courses as follows: North 73° 14' East 1108.65 feet; thence North 1° 08' 30" East 1167.15 feet; thence South 88° 15' 28" East 1418.65 feet to a point, the Northwest corner of the Bert Hensley tract No. 207; thence with the West boundary of the Bert Hensley tract South 8° 36' East 1895.87 feet to a point in the North boundary of the T.C. Adams tract No. 206; thence with North boundary of the Adams tract South 69° 15' 30" West 807.18 feet to a point in the North boundary of the Arminta Hensley tract No. 204; thence with the North boundary of said Hensley tract three courses as follows: North 68° 07' West 486.00 feet; thence South 89° 44' 20" West 265.85 feet; thence South 36° 33' West 284.20 feet to the beginning. Containing 84.715 acres, be the same more or less. Bearings herein based on the meridian of the Tennessee Plane Coordinate System.

Being the same property, part of which was conveyed to Will Gibbons, by James Hensley and wife, Lucy Hensley, by deed dated January 20, 1908, and recorded in Bell County Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 88, page 234, and a part of which was conveyed to said Will Gibbons and wife, Nancy Gibbons, by deed from Jack Hensley and wife, Josephine Hensley, dated January 22, 1908, and recorded in Bell County Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 88, page 225.

2/11

2


N
S. 85-15-25. E
1415.55
N. 1-54-50. E
1160.92
203
W. M. Gibbons
84.715 Acres
N. 73-14. E
1105.65
1905.17
N. 61-27. E
N. 62-32. E
S. 59-54. E 1345.92
Armintia Hensley
Kentenia Corr-
3/5 shares
22.276 Acres
T. C. Adams
47.17 Acres
Clarence Smith
46.11 Acres
204
205
202
Cumberland Gap
National Historical Park
Bell County, Kentucky
SCALE 1" = 500'
J. F. Davis
March 22, 1940

3/11

C & R. M. BALES 500 acres,
Harlan, No.5497, Ex & V.D.
to J.Ballenger per rect.

WILLIAM OWSLEY, Esq.
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY,

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

KNOW YE, That by virtue and in consideration of part of warrant from the Harlan County Court:

There is granted by the said Commonwealth unto C. & R.M.Bales, apecs of Francis Hamblin, a certain tract or parcel of land, consisting of Five Hundred acres sy survey, bearing date the 22nd day of February one thousand eight hundred and forty-three, lying and being in the county of Harlan at the head of Martin's Fork and Shalalah Creek on the top of Cumberland Mountain and bounded as followeth, towit: Beginning at four black locusts and a spur ; thence S 72° west 62 poles to two chestnuts ; thence S 30° West 62 poles to a maple; thence S 85° west 34 poles to a chestnut oak; thence S 20° west 20 poles to a chestnut S 68° west 20 poles to three chestnuts; thence S 72° east 100 poles to a black oak and hickory ; thence S 70° east 150 poles to two chestnuts on topy of Cumberland Mountain; thence N 28° east 60 poles to a white oak and black gum; thence N 75° E 20 poles to two white oaks; thence N 70° east 60 poles to a chestnut; thence N 80° E 60 poles to a white oak; thence N 60° east 60 poles to two chestnuts; thence N 70° east 28 poles to a chestnut; thence N 70° east 34 poles to three hickories; thence N 53° east 40 poles to two black oaks and hickory on a cliff near Chadwell's Gap; thence North 100 poles to a chestnut; thence N 87° west 380 poles to a stake; thence S 100 poles to the beginning. WITH ITS appurtenances: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract or parcel of land, with its appurtenances, to the said C & R.M.Bales, his heirs forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the said William Owsley, Esq., Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, hath hereunto set his hand and caused the seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed, at Frankfort on the 6th day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty five and of the Commonwealth the fifty third.

BY the Governor
S/ Ben Hardin

S/ Wm. Owsley
Secretary of State.

4/11

3

DEED BOOK 44, PAGE 241

JOHN B. McLINN AND WIFE,
MARY E. McLINN,
HATTIE A.FULKERSON,(MARITAL
STATUS NOT GIVEN)
W. W. BALES AND WIFE, MAY I.BALES
AND J.TEVIS COBB, ASSIGNEE
C. J. Bales and wife
Florence V. Bales
TO

BERT HENSLEY, SENIOR

GENERAL WARRANTY DEED
DATED: May 4, 1903.

ACK: May 4, 1903, by John B.McLinn and wife, Mary E.McLinn, and Hattie A.Fulkerson,before Chas.C.Bales, Notary Public, Lee County, Va.
COMISSION EXPIRES August 3,1905.
NOTARIAL SEAL AFFIXED.
ACK: April 23, 1903,by W.W.Bales and wife, Mary L.Bales,C.J.Bales, Florence V.Bales,and J.Tevis Cobb, assignee, before Jesse Cobb, Clerk Madison County, Ky. Court.
RECORDED: June 30, 1903, in Bell County Court Clerk's Office in deed book 44, page 241.

CONSIDERATION: That for and in consideration of the sum of $2,000.00 in hand paid, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged

THE PARTIES OF THE FIRST PART,
Do hereby grant, bargain, sell, release, convey and forever quit claim unto the said Bert Hensley, Sr., all their right, title and interest in and to a certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in Bell County, Ky., towit;

DESCRIPTION: Beginning at 4 black locusts on a spur ; thence S 72 W 62 poles to two chestnuts; thence S 30 W 62 poles to a maple; thence S 85 W 34 poles to a chestnut oak; thence S 68 W 20 poles to 3 chestnuts; thence S 72 E 100 poles to a black oak and hickory; thence S 70 E 150 poles to two chestnuts on the top of Cumberland Mountain; thence N 28 E 60 poles to a white oak and black gum, thence N 75 E 28 poles to two white oaks; thence N 70 E 60 poles to a chestnut; thence N 80 E 60 poles to a white oak; thence N 85 E 60 poles to two chestnuts; thence N 70 E 34 poles to three hickories; thence N 53 E 40 poles to two black oaks and hickory on a cliff near Chadwell's Gap; thence N 100 poles to a chestnut; thence N 87 W 380 poles to a stake; thence S 100 poles to the beginning. Containing 500 acres be the same more or less

RECITAL: Being the same tract or parcel of land that was granted to C. & R. M. Bales, under a grant from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, dated January 6, 1845, #5497, recorded in Book 12,page 18

WARRANTY: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract or parcel of land together with all its appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any way appertaining. It is expressly agreed and understood that the intention of this deed is to convey unto the said party of the second part, all the right, title and interest which the said parties of the first part now ow in said tract of land by whatsoever ways acquired.

SIGNED: W. W. BALES MARY L. BALES C. H. BALES
FLORENCE V.BALES JOHN B. McLINN MARY E. McLINN
HATTIE A. FULKERSON..J.TEVIS COBB,ASSIGNEE
C. J. BALES

NOTES: Deed states as follows: "J.Tevis Cobb ,Assignee, in a deed of assignment made by the said C.J.Bales to him of Madison County, Ky. ", Also "J.Tevis Cobb, Assignee of C.J.Bales, and only as such assignee".

5/11

4

DEED BOOK #55 PAGE #98

WILSON HENSLEY AND WIFE
LUCRETIA HENSLEY
ROBERT OSBORNE AND WIFE
JANE OSBORNE
GEORGE CRIDER AND WIFE
MALISSA CRIDER
EMILY EDWARDS, WIDOW
CAMPBELL GIBBON AND WIFE
NANCY GIBBON

TO

JAMES G HENSLEY

GENERAL WARRANTY DEED.

DATED: January 14th, 1907

ACKNOWLEDGED: January 14th, 1907 by Wilson Hensley, Lucretia Hensley, George Crider, Malissa Crider, Emily Edwards, Campbell Gibbons, Nancy Gibbons before J.F.Skidmore, Clerk of Harlan County Court, by Henry Hensley, D.C.

RECORDED: January 14th, 1908 in the office of the Bell County Court Clerk in Deed Book 55 page 98.

CONSIDERATION: For and in consideration of the sum of $353.00 to them in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, $78.00 paid to Wilson Hensley, $100.00 paid to Jane Osborne, $50.00 to Malissa Crider, and $75.00 paid to Emily Edwards, $50.00 paid to Campbell Gibbons

THE SAID PARTIES OF THE FIRST PART Have sold and do hereby convey to the party of the second part, his heirs and assigns the following described real estate towit; All the right, title interest and claim which said Wilson Hensley, Jane Osborne, Malissa Crider and Emily Edwards, Campbell Gibbons, children and heirs at law of the late Burton Hensley, deceased, of Harlan County, Kentucky have in and to the following tract of land lying on the north side of Cu mberland Mountain in Bell County, Kentucky, being a 1/16th undivided interest each in said land, which the said Burton Hensley deceased conveyed to said parties of the first part by his deeds of conveyan ce before his death. Said tract of land being bounded as follows; Begihning at 4 black locusts on a spur of said Cumberland Mountain; thence S 72 W 62 poles to 2 chestnuts; thence S 30 W 62 poles to a maple; thence S 85 W 34 poles to a chestnut oak; thence S 20 W 20 poles to a chestnut; thence S 68 W 20 poles to 3 chestnuts; thence S 72 E 100 poles to a black oak and hickory; thence S 72 E 100 poles to a black oak and hickory; thence S 70 E 150 poles to 2 chestnuts on top of said mountain; thence N 28 E 60 poles to a white oak and black gum; thence N 75 E 20 poles to two white oaks; thence N 70 E 60 poles to a chestnut; thence N 80 E 60 poles to a white oak; thence N 60 E 80 poles to 2 chestnuts; thence N 75 E 28 poles to a chestnut; thence N 70 E 34 poles to 3 hickories; thence N 53 E 40 poles to 2 black oaks and hickory on a cliff near Chadwell's Gap; thence N 100 poles to a chestnut; thence N 87 W 380 poles to a stake; thence S 100 poles to the beginning.

RECITAL: The same being the land deeded to said Burton Hensley by the heirs of R.M.Bales by deed bearing date of May 4th, 1903, and recorded in Deed Book 44, page 241 in the office of the Bell County Court Clerk, but thereis expepted and deducted from the foregoing boundary and not herein conveyed any part of the tracts sold therefrom by Burton Hensley and wife to R.F.Witt, Sherman Hensley, Jack Hensley, and Allen Hensley

WARRANTY: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said interest in said land together with all the appurtenances thereunto be longing unto the party of the second part his heirs and assigns forever. And the said parties of the first part hereby covenant with the said party of the second part that they will warrant the title to the undivided interests in said property hereby conveyed

6/11

DEED BOOK #88 PAGE #224

SPECIAL WARRANTY DEED

JAMES HENSLEY AND WIFE
LUCY HENSLEY

DATED: January 20th, 1908

ACKNOWLEDGED: January 20th, 1908 by James Hensley and Lucy Hensley before John L. Saylor, Clerk of Bell County Court, by F.P.Miracle Deputy Clerk.

TO

RECORDED: December 31st, 1925 in the office of the Bell County Court Clerk.

WILL GIBBINS

CONSIDERATION: That the said party of the first part in consideration of the sum of $100.00 in hand paid, $125.25 of August 1908 42 acres lying in the Boundary known as the C.B.Sales Survey Being two sixteenths interest, two undivided shares , this being the land conveyed from Bert Hensleys heirs to James Hensley to William Gibbins to have and to hold with all its appurtenances thereunto belonging on the head of Martin's Fork and Shaly , in the County of Bell, State of Kentucky, the party of the first part do hereby acknowledge this to be their act and deed, from him and his heirs and assigns forever. This being the land conveyed from Bert Hensley heirs to James Hensley, then from James Hensley to William Gibbins to have and to hold with all its appurtenances forever.

SIGNED: JAMES HENSLEY
LUCY HENSLEY

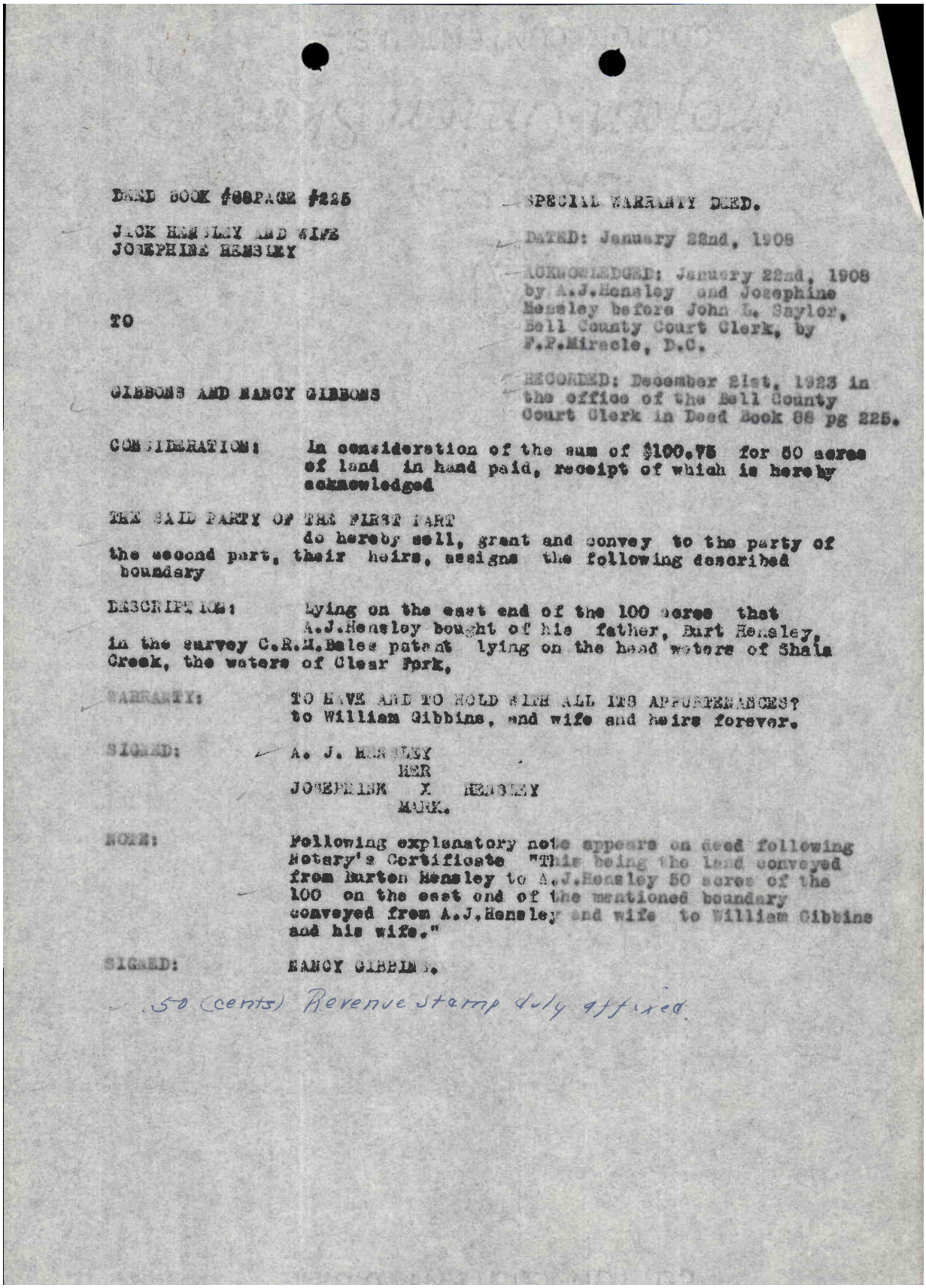
NOTE: Following appears on face of Deed. "January 6th 1909 this deed paid in full.

SIGNED: JAMES HENSLEY
LUCY HENSLEY
R.F.D. [illegible]

$.50 Rev stamp duly affixed

7/11

6



DEED BOOK #88PAGE #225 — SPECIAL WARRANTY DEED.

JACK HENSLEY AND WIFE JOSEPHINE HENSLEY

DATED: January 22nd, 1908

ACKNOWLEDGED: January 22nd, 1908 by A.J.Hensley and Josephine Hensley before John L. Saylor, Bell County Court Clerk, by F.P.Miracle, D.C.

TO

GIBBONS AND NANCY GIBBONS

RECORDED: December 21st, 1923 in the office of the Bell County Court Clerk in Deed Book 88 pg 225.

CONSIDERATION: In consideration of the sum of $100.75 for 50 acres of land in hand paid, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged

THE SAID PARTY OF THE FIRST PART do hereby sell, grant and convey to the party of the second part, their heirs, assigns the following described boundary

DESCRIPTION: lying on the east end of the 100 acres that A.J.Hensley bought of his father, Burt Hensley, in the survey C.R.R.Bales patent lying on the head waters of Shaia Creek, the waters of Clear Fork,

WARRANTY: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD SAID ALL ITS APPURTENANCES? to William Gibbins, and wife and heirs forever.

SIGNED: A. J. HENSLEY
HER
JOSEPHINE X HENSLEY
MARK.

NOTE: Following explanatory note appears on deed following Notary's Certificate "This being the land conveyed from Burton Hensley to A.J.Hensley 50 acres of the 100 on the east end of the mentioned boundary conveyed from A.J.Hensley and wife to William Gibbins and his wife."

SIGNED: NANCY GIBBINS.

.50 (cents) Revenue stamp duly affixed.

8/11 Jack and Josephine Hensley sold 50 acres to Willie and Nancy Gibbons (Gibbons) on January 22nd, 1908.

STATE OF KENTUCKY
COUNTY OF BELL

The affiant, Mosa Wilder, being first duly sworn states as follows:

I am 91 years of age, a resident of Middlesboro, Bell County, Kentucky, and live in the vicinity of the land hereinafter mentioned, which land is now owned and occupied by WILL GIBBONS and wife, NANCY GIBBONS, having been conveyed to them by Jack Hensley and wife, Josephine Hensley by deed dated January 22, 1908, and recorded in Bell County Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 88, Page 225, and by James Hensley and wife, Lucy Hensley, by deed dated January 20, 1908, and recorded in Bell County Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 88, Page 224, and more particularly described on caption sheet hereto attached.

My knowledge of said land and the various owners thereof was acquired by reason of the fact that I lived in the neighborhood and vicinity of the land and was personally acquainted with the following owners thereof:

Jack Hensley and anf wife, Josephine Hensley
James Hensley and wife, Lucy Hensley.
The heirs of Bert Hensley
The heirs of C. and R.M. Bales.

For more than thirty-one years last past the owner first above named and predecessors in title last above named have claimed said land to the extent of the boundary shown in said caption, and that said land was possessed and enjoyed by said owners and predecessors in title to well fixed, marked, and defined boundaries under the claim that they owned the same; that their said claim was accompanied by actual, open, adverse, peaceable, exclusive, continuous, hostile, and notorious possession, and that such adverse ownership has been manifested by paying taxes, removal of timber, cultivating, erecting a residence thereon, and living thereon as their home.

I am also informed and believe that there are no adverse owners of record or claimants who are under disability of infancy, imprisonment, absence from the State, or now in the armed forces of the U.S.A.

This the 12 day of Sept. 1949.

Mosa Wilder

Subscribed and sworn to before me by said affiant, this the 12 day of Sept. 1949. My commission expires: July 20, 1952

R. L. Maddox Jr.
Notary Public, Bell County, Kentucky.

I, Howard J. Douglass, purchasing agent for the Kentucky National Park Commission, state that I am personally acquainted with above named affiant, and that he is of good character and bears a good reputation in the City of Middlesboro, Kentucky, and in the particular neighborhood in which he resides.

This the 12 day of Sept. 1949.

Howard J. Douglass

8

9/11 Affidavit sworn by Mosa Wilder, stating that she knew Jack and Josephine Hensley and Will and Nancy Gibbons, and that she believed the Gibbons owned the land free and clear. The next two pages are similar affidavits.

STATE OF KENTUCKY
COUNTY OF BELL

The affiant, H. Bascom Hensley, being first duly sworn states as follows:

I am 60 years of age, a resident of Oaks, Bell County, Kentucky, and live in the vicinity of the land hereinafter mentioned, which land is now owned and occupied by WILL GIBBONS and wife, NANCY GIBBONS, having been conveyed to them by Jack Hensley and wife Josephine Hensley by deed dated January 22, 1908 and recorded in Bell County Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 88, page 225, and by James Hensley and wife, Lucy Hensley, by deed dated January 20, 1908, and recorded in Bell County Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 88, page 224, and more particularly described on caption sheet hereto attached.

My knowledge of said land and the various owners thereof was acquired by reason of the fact that I lived in the neighborhood and vicinity of the land and was personally acquainted with the following owners thereof:

Jack Hensley and wife, Josephine Hensley
James Hensley and wife, Lucy Hensley.
The heirs of Bert Hensley
The heirs of C. and R.M. Bales.

For more than thirty-one years last past the owner first above named and predecessors in title last above named have claimed said land to the extent of the boundary shown in said caption, and that said land was possessed and enjoyed by said owners and predecessors in title to well fixed, marked, and defined boundaries under the claim that they owned the same; that their said claim was accompanied by actual, open, adverse, peaceable, exclusive, continuous, hostile, and notorious possession, and that such adverse ownership has been manifested by paying taxes, removal of timber, cultivating, erecting a residence thereon, and living thereon as their home.

I am also informed and believe that there are no adverse owners of record or claimants who are under disability of infancy, imprisonment, absence from the State, or now in the armed forces of the U.S.A.

This the 12 day of Sept. 1949.

H. Bascom Hensley

Subscribed and sworn to before me by said affiant, this the 1w day of Sept. 1949. My commission expires: July 20, 1953

R. L. Maddox, Cr.
Notary Public, Bell County, Kentucky

I, Howard J. Douglass, purchasing agent for the Kentucky National Park Commission, state that I am personally acquainted with above named affiant, and that he is of good character and bears a good reputation in the City of Middlesboro, Kentucky, and in the particular neighborhood in which he resides.

This the 12 day of Sept. 1949.

Howard J. Douglass

10/11

9

STATE OF KENTUCKY
COUNTY OF BELL

The affiant, W. B. Hensley, being first duly sworn states as follows:

I am 70 years of age, a resident of ~~Middlesboro~~ Cubbage, Bell County, Kentucky, and live in the vicinity of the land hereinafter mentioned, which land is now owned and occupied by WILL GIBBONS and wife, NANCY GIBBONS, having been conveyed to them by Jack Hensley and wife, Josephine Hensley by deed dated January 22, 1908, and recorded in Bell County Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 88, page 225, and by James Hensley and wife, Lucy Hensley, by deed dated January 20, 1908, and recorded in Bell County Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 88, Page 224, and more particularly described on caption sheet hereto attached.

My knowledge of said land and the various owners thereof was acquired by reason of the fact that I lived in the neighborhood and vicinity of the land and was personally acquainted with the following owners thereof:

Jack Hensley and wife, Josephine Hensley
James Hensley and wife, Lucy Hensley.
The heirs of Bert Hensley.
The heirs of C and R.M.Bales.

For more than thirty-one years last past the owner first above named and predecessors in title last above named have claimed that said land to the extent of the boundary shown in said caption, and that said land was possessed and enjoyed by said owners and predecessors in title to well fixed, marked, and defined boundaries under the claim that they owned the same; that their said claim was accompanied by actual, open, adverse, peaceable, exclusive, continuous, hostile, and notorious possession, and that such adverse ownership has been manifested by paying taxes, removal of timber, cultivating, erecting a residence thereon, and living thereon as their home.

I am also informed and believe that there are no adverse owners of record or claimants who are under disability of infancy, imprisonment, absence from the State, or now in the armed forces of the U.S.A.

This the 12 day of Sept. 1949.

Witness Howard Douglass

his
W. B. (X) Hensley
mark

Subscribed and sworn to before me by said affiant, this the 12 day of Sept. 1949. My commission expires: March 6, 1950.

Virginia O. Huff
Notary Public, Bell County, Kentucky.

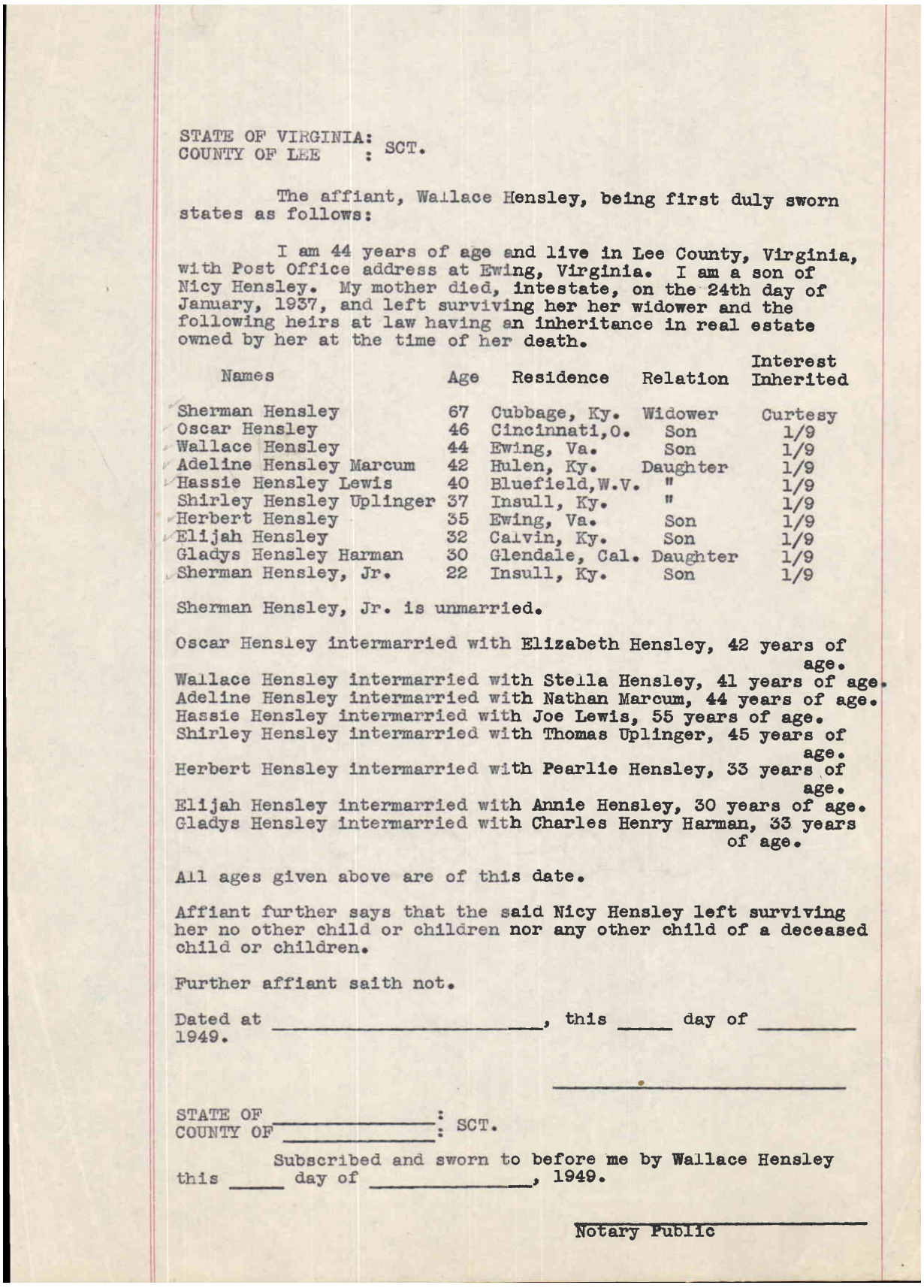
I, Howard J. Douglass, purchasing agent for the Kentucky National Park Commission, state that I am personally acquainted with above named affiant, and that he is of good character and bears a good reputation in the city of Middlesboro, Kentucky, and in the particular neighborhood in which he resides.

This the 12 day of Sept. 1949.

Howard J. Douglass

11/11

10



STATE OF VIRGINIA:
COUNTY OF LEE : SCT.

The affiant, Wallace Hensley, being first duly sworn states as follows:

I am 44 years of age and live in Lee County, Virginia, with Post Office address at Ewing, Virginia. I am a son of Nicy Hensley. My mother died, intestate, on the 24th day of January, 1937, and left surviving her her widower and the following heirs at law having an inheritance in real estate owned by her at the time of her death.

Names	Age	Residence	Relation	Interest Inherited
Sherman Hensley	67	Cubbage, Ky.	Widower	Curtesy
Oscar Hensley	46	Cincinnati,O.	Son	1/9
Wallace Hensley	44	Ewing, Va.	Son	1/9
Adeline Hensley Marcum	42	Hulen, Ky.	Daughter	1/9
Hassie Hensley Lewis	40	Bluefield,W.V.	"	1/9
Shirley Hensley Uplinger	37	Insull, Ky.	"	1/9
Herbert Hensley	35	Ewing, Va.	Son	1/9
Elijah Hensley	32	Calvin, Ky.	Son	1/9
Gladys Hensley Harman	30	Glendale, Cal.	Daughter	1/9
Sherman Hensley, Jr.	22	Insull, Ky.	Son	1/9

Sherman Hensley, Jr. is unmarried.

Oscar Hensley intermarried with Elizabeth Hensley, 42 years of age.
Wallace Hensley intermarried with Stella Hensley, 41 years of age.
Adeline Hensley intermarried with Nathan Marcum, 44 years of age.
Hassie Hensley intermarried with Joe Lewis, 55 years of age.
Shirley Hensley intermarried with Thomas Uplinger, 45 years of age.
Herbert Hensley intermarried with Pearlie Hensley, 33 years of age.
Elijah Hensley intermarried with Annie Hensley, 30 years of age.
Gladys Hensley intermarried with Charles Henry Harman, 33 years of age.

All ages given above are of this date.

Affiant further says that the said Nicy Hensley left surviving her no other child or children nor any other child of a deceased child or children.

Further affiant saith not.

Dated at _____, this _____ day of _____ 1949.

_____

STATE OF _____:
COUNTY OF _____: SCT.

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Wallace Hensley this _____ day of _____, 1949.

_____
Notary Public

FIGURE C–7. Affidavit from Wallace Hensley in 1949 that accounts for all heirs, deaths, and marriages. Source: 1 page, excerpt from Hensley Sherman Tract 206-2, CUGA Accession 309, Catalogue CUGA 5586

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Appendix D
CLIMATE DATA

The following documents were shared with STA, and date from 2014-2015. Data surrounding climate change shifts frequently, so these documents present a snapshot into the climate status of CUGA.

No specific research has thus far been completed for Hensley Settlement, which is situated at a much higher elevation than CUGA as a whole.

Climate Change

Resource Brief

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Natural Resource Stewardship & Science

Recent Climate Change Exposure of Cumberland Gap National Historical Park

Climate change is occurring at especially rapid rates in some areas of the U.S. In national parks, climate change challenges the ability of park managers to preserve natural and cultural resources. To understand the "climate change exposure" of national parks—that is, the magnitude and direction of ongoing changes in climate—we investigated how recent climates compare to historical conditions. This recently published research (Monahan & Fisichelli 2014) updates the basic climate inventories for 289 national park units. Here, we summarize results for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, including areas within 30-km (18.6-mi) of the park's boundary.

We evaluated climate-change exposure by asking which of 25 biologically relevant climate variables recently (past 10–30 years) experienced "extreme" values relative to the 1901–2012 historical range of variability. We define "extreme" conditions (e.g., extreme warm, extreme wet) as exceeding 95% of the historical range of conditions.

Methods

To evaluate recent climate values within the context of historical conditions, we used the following methods (also illustrated in Figure 1):

- **For each temperature and precipitation variable, we analyzed data within three progressive time intervals, or "moving windows," of 10, 20, and 30 years to calculate a series of averages over the entire period of analysis (1901–2012).** For example, in progressive 10-year intervals, we calculated averages of temperature and precipitation for 103 blocks of time (1901–1910, 1902–1911 . . . 2003–2012), and repeated this approach for the 20 and 30-year "windows." This type of analysis helps to smooth year-to-year fluctuations in order to identify longer-term trends that characterize the park's historical range of variability (HRV). The three windows encompass both near- and long-term management and planning horizons, as well as important climatic periods and cycles.
- **We compared the average temperature and precipitation values for each of the *most recent* 10, 20, and 30 year intervals (2003–2012; 1993–2012; and 1983–2012) to those of all corresponding intervals across the entire period of 1901–2012. These results (expressed as percentiles) describe "recent" conditions relative to historical conditions.** For example, a 90th percentile for annual average temperature over the most recent 10-year interval (2003–2012) means that the annual average temperature during this time exceeded 90% of annual average temperatures for all 10-year periods from 1901 to 2012.
- **We then averaged the percentiles of the most recent 10, 20, and 30-year time periods and computed the maximum difference in recent percentile.** For each park and climate variable, this resulted in both an overall measure of recent climate change exposure with respect to HRV (dots in Figure 2), and an estimate of sensitivity to moving-window size (length of bars in Figure 2).

See Monahan & Fisichelli (2014) for a detailed explanation of methods, and Figure 1 for an example analysis applied to annual mean temperature.

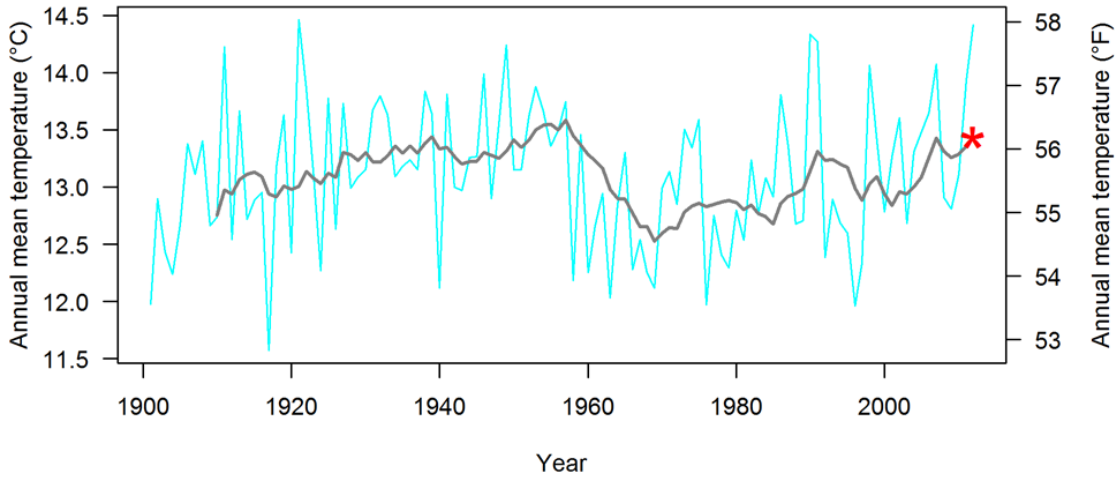


Figure 1. Time series used to characterize the historical range of variability and most recent percentile for annual mean temperature at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park (including areas within 30-km [18.6-mi] of the park's boundary). The blue line shows temperature for each year, the gray line shows temperature averaged over progressive 10-year intervals (10-year moving windows), and the red asterisk shows the average temperature of the most recent 10-year moving window (2003–2012). The most recent percentile is calculated as the percentage of values on the gray line that fall below the red asterisk (see results of most recent percentiles for all temperature and precipitation variables in Figure 2).

FIGURE D–1. "Recent Climate change Exposure in Cumberland Gap National Historical Park." Climate Change Resource Brief. Experience Your America. July 29, 2014. 2 pages.

Results

Recent percentiles for 14 temperature and precipitation variables at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park appear in Figure 2. Results for "extreme" variables at the park were as follows:

- One temperature variable was "extreme warm" (mean temperature of the wettest quarter).
- No temperature variables were "extreme cold."
- No precipitation variables were "extreme dry."
- No precipitation variables were "extreme wet."

Key points for interpreting these results in the context of park resources include:

- Recent climatic conditions are already shifting beyond the historical range of variability.
- Ongoing and future climate change will likely affect all aspects of park management, including natural and cultural resource protection as well as park operations and visitor experience.
- Effective planning and management must be grounded in our comprehension of past dynamics, present conditions, and projected future change.
- Climate change will manifest itself not only as changes in average conditions, as summarized here, but also as changes in particular climate events (e.g., more intense storms, floods, or drought). Extreme climate events can cause widespread and fundamental shifts in conditions of park resources.

Climate Change Adaptation

These findings can inform climate change adaptation at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park by helping park managers, planners, and interpreters to understand how recent climates compare to past conditions. For example, these findings may be used to:

- Characterize park exposure to recent climate change in a vulnerability assessment.
- Develop plausible and divergent futures for use in a climate-change scenario planning workshop.
- Synthesize desired future conditions (i.e., reference conditions) for use in a Resource Stewardship Strategy or other National Park Service management plan.
- Create interpretive materials for communicating with local communities and park visitors.

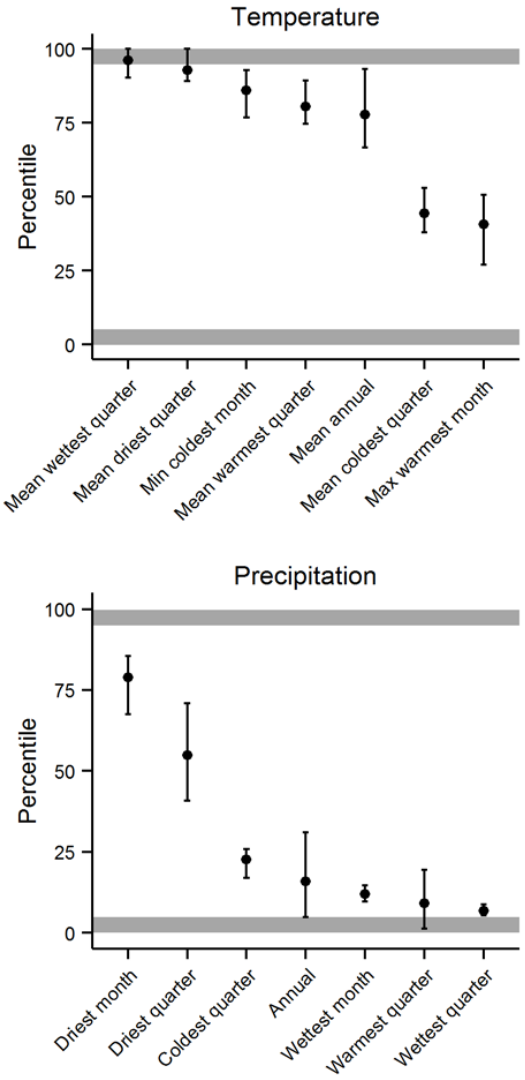


Figure 2. Recent temperature and precipitation percentiles at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park (including areas within 30-km [18.6-mi] of the park's boundary). Black dots indicate average recent percentiles across the 10, 20, and 30-year intervals (moving windows). Variables are considered "extreme" if the mean percentiles are <5th percentile or >95th percentile (i.e., the gray zones, where recent climate is pushing the limits of all observed climates since the year 1901). Black bars indicate the range of recent percentiles across 10, 20, and 30-year moving windows (larger bars indicate higher sensitivity to moving window size).

More Information

Monahan WB, and NA Fisichelli. 2014. Climate exposure of US national parks in a new era of change. PLoS ONE 9(7): e101302. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0101302. Available from http://dx.plos.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0101302.

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Climate Change Summary, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, USA

Patrick Gonzalez

Natural Resource Stewardship and Science, U.S. National Park Service, Washington, DC

January 7, 2015

Climate Trends for the Area within Park Boundaries

- Average annual temperature decreased slightly in the period 1950-2010, but the rate was not statistically significant (Table 1, Figure 2). While average annual temperatures have increased across most of the world, the southeastern U.S. is an anomaly due to El Niño and other factors (Portmann et al. 2009).
- In the park, summer (June-August) average temperature increased at a rate of 0.5 ± 0.6ºC per century (0.9 ± 1.1ºF. per century) in the period 1950-2010. The rate was not statistically significant.
- Average total precipitation decreased in the period 1950-2010, but the rate was not statistically significant (Table 1, Figure 2). Precipitation decreased in winter (December-February) but increased in spring, summer, and fall. The rates were not statistically significant.
- If the world does not reduce emissions from power plants, cars, and deforestation by 40-70%, models project substantial warming and increases in precipitation (Table 1, Figure 3).
- Under the highest emissions scenario, models project 15-20 more days per year with a maximum temperature >35ºC (95ºF.) by 2100 and an increase in 20-year storms (a storm with more precipitation than any other storm in 20 years) to once every 5 years (Walsh et al. 2014).

Published Historical Impact in the Region

- Analyses of Audubon Christmas Bird Count data across the United States, including counts in the region, detected a northward shift of winter ranges of a set of 254 bird species at an average rate of 0.5 ± 0.3 km per year from 1975 to 2004, attributable to human climate change and not other factors (La Sorte and Thompson 2007).

Published Future Vulnerabilities in the Region

- Under high emissions, the region could become more favorable to the growth of the invasive plants kudzu (*Pueraria lobata*) and privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) (Bradley et al. 2010).
- Experimental increases of atmospheric carbon dioxide in a North Carolina forest indicate that climate change could increase the growth and toxicity of poison ivy (Mohan et al. 2006).
- Under the highest emissions scenario, climate change could shift the ranges of numerous tree species northward, reducing potential densities of red maple (Iverson et al. 2008).

FIGURE D–2. Patrick Gonzales, "Climate Change Summary, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, USA." Source: Natural Resource Stewardship and Science, US National Park Service, Washington DC, January 7, 2015. 6 pages.

- Under continued climate change, longer growing seasons may increase the risk of southern pine beetle outbreaks and expand the range of the beetle northward, increasing forest mortality (McNulty et al. 2013)
- Under continued climate change, increasing winter temperatures may exacerbate hemlock woolly adelgid infestation and increase mortality of hemlock trees (Dukes et al. 2009).
- Under high emissions, hotter temperatures may shift the range for the endangered Indiana Bat northward away from the park due to a loss of suitable summer climate for maternity colonies (Loeb and Winters 2013).

Table 1. Historical rates of change per century and projected future changes in annual average temperature and annual total precipitation (data Daly et al. 2008, IPCC 2013; analysis Wang et al. in preparation). The table gives the historical rate of change per century calculated from data for the period 1950-2013. Because a rate of change per century is given, the absolute change for the 1950-2013 period will be approximately 60% of that rate. The table gives central values for the park as a whole. Figures 1-3 show the uncertainties.

	1950-2013	**2000-2050**	**2000-2100**
Historical			
temperature	-0.3ºC/century (-0.5ºF./century)		
precipitation	-3%/century		
Projected (compared to 1971-2000)			
Low emissions (IPCC RCP 4.5)			
temperature		+2.1ºC (+3.8ºF.)	+2.7ºC (+4.9ºF.)
precipitation		+5%	+6%
High emissions (IPCC RCP 6.0)			
temperature		+1.7ºC (+3.1ºF.)	+3.1ºC (+5.6ºF.)
precipitation		+5%	+7%
Highest emissions (IPCC RCP 8.5)			
temperature		+2.6ºC (+4.7ºF.)	+4.7ºC (+8.5ºF.)
precipitation		+6%	+10%

Figure 1. Historical annual average temperature for the area within park boundaries. Note that the U.S. weather station network was more stable for the period starting 1950 than for the period starting 1895. (Data: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Daly et al. 2008. Analysis: Wang et al. in preparation, University of Wisconsin and U.S. National Park Service).

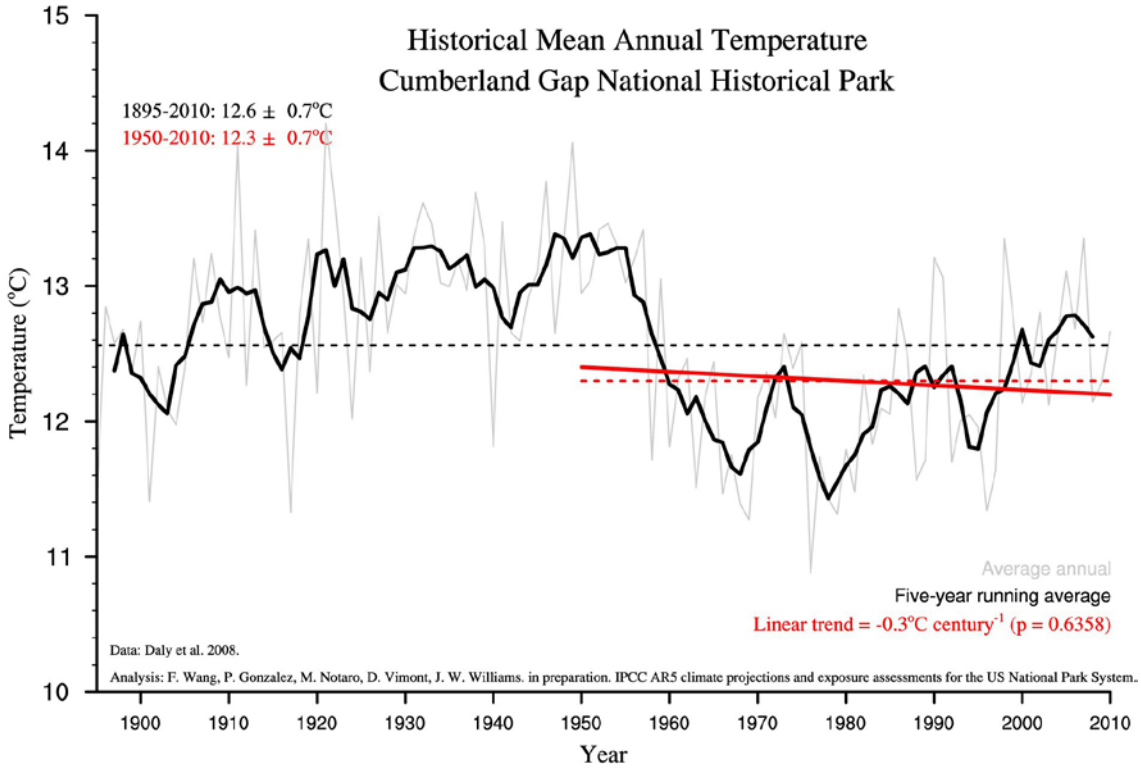


Figure 2. Historical annual total precipitation for the area within park boundaries. Note that the U.S. weather station network was more stable for the period starting 1950 than for the period starting 1895. (Data: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Daly et al. 2008. Analysis: Wang et al. in preparation, University of Wisconsin and U.S. National Park Service).

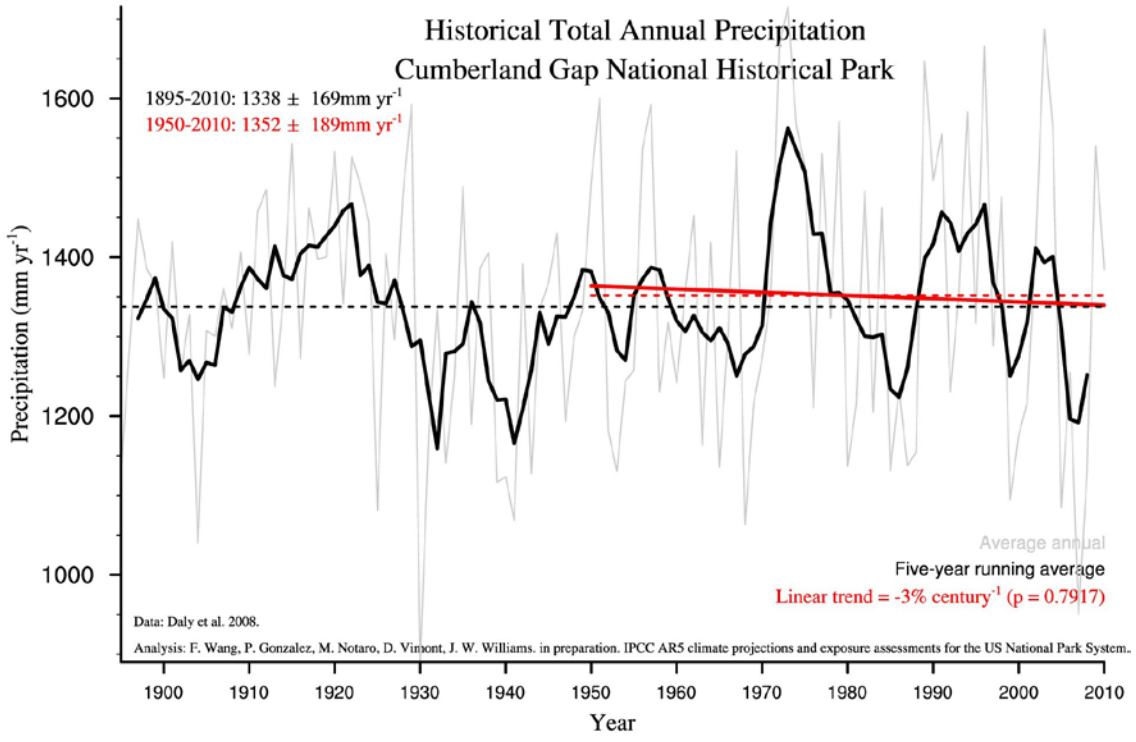
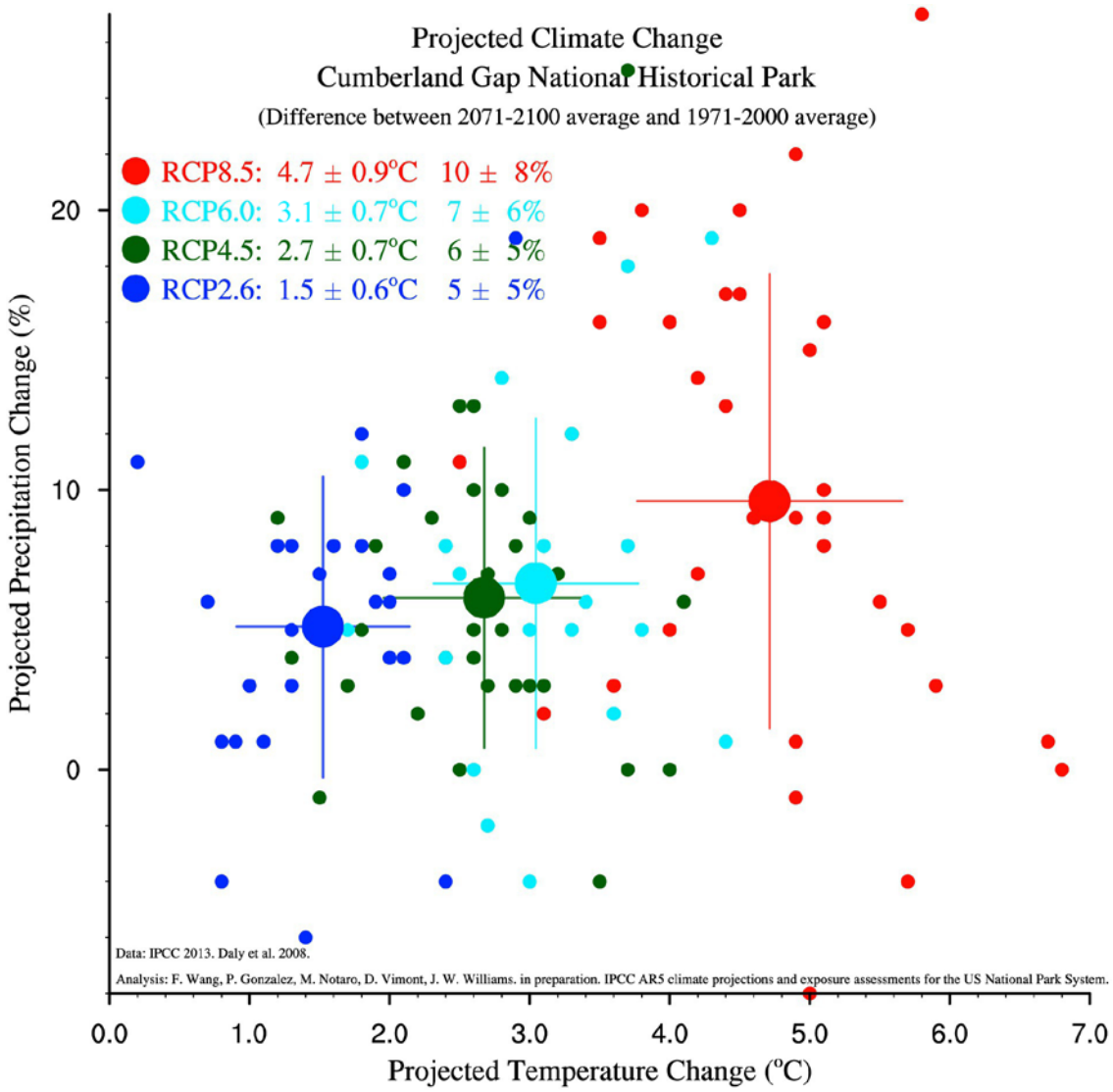


Figure 3. Projections of future climate for the area within park boundaries. Each small dot is the output of a single climate model. The large color dots are the average values for the four IPCC emissions scenarios. The lines are the standard deviations of each average value. (Data: IPCC 2013, Daly et al. 2008; Analysis: Wang et al. in preparation, University of Wisconsin and U.S. National Park Service).



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Park Visitation and Climate Change

Park-specific Brief

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Natural Resource Stewardship & Science

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park: How might future warming alter visitation?

Background

Climate change will affect not only natural and cultural resources within national parks, but also visitation patterns. Where, when, and how many people visit parks is likely to change with continued warming. For example, visitors may avoid extremely warm months in low-latitude parks and the visitation season may extend across additional weeks to months at northern parks. Whether park visitors track climate change and shift their behavior will depend on multiple environmental and socioeconomic factors. However, understanding potential change in visitation based on historical trends and future patterns of temperature change is a crucial first step for park managers and local communities to anticipate, plan for, and proactively affect future visitation. Recent research (Fisichelli et al. 2015) examined the relationship between park visitation and temperature across 340 NPS units. Here, we summarize and interpret results for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. Park-specific briefs for all parks in the study are available at the National Park Service Science and Nature website.

Methods

To assess the relationship between temperature and park visitation at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, we evaluated historical monthly average air temperature and visitation data (1979-2013) and modeled potential future visitation (2041-2060) based on two warming-climate scenarios (decreased future greenhouse gas emissions [low emissions RCP 4.5] and business as usual [high emissions RCP 8.5]) and two visitation-growth scenarios (maximum growth within +5% [low] and +25% [high] of average historical visitation of the busiest month). We averaged each month's total recreation visits across all available years in order to capture historical long-term averages in temperature and visitation. We use these data and future climate projections to estimate potential future long-term average visitation. Using a single explanatory variable, air temperature, we assume others factors as constant (e.g., income, population size, demography, and leisure time availability). See Fisichelli et al. (2015) for a detailed explanation of methods.

Results

Historical relationship between visitation and temperature

Across the national park system, parks varied widely in the historical relationship between long-term average monthly visitation and temperature. Temperature was a significant predictor of visitation at 95% of parks (324 of 340), and temperature explained 12-99% (mean = 79%) of the variation in visitation at these individual parks. The historical visitation-temperature relationship at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park was Very strong (F-test = 61.7, p-value < 0.0001). Temperature explained 92% of the variation in visitation in a 2nd-order polynomial model. Observed historical monthly visitation, air temperature, and their association are shown in Figures 1 and 2.

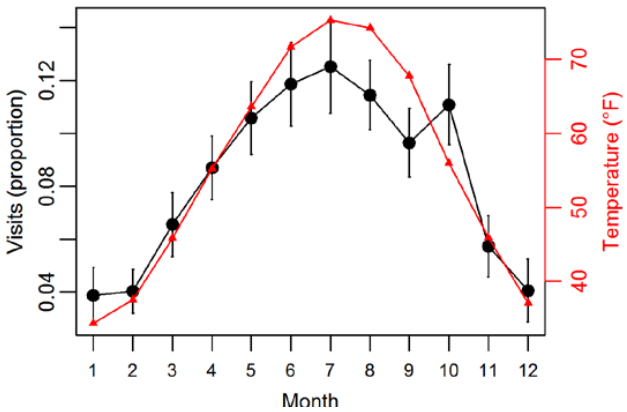


Figure 1. Observed (1979-2013) long-term average monthly visitation (black circles) and temperature (red triangles) at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. Historical (black) error bars are +/- one standard error. Each month's visitation is expressed as a proportion of the annual total.

FIGURE D–3. "Park Visitation and Climate Change, Park-specific Brief." Source: US National Park Service, Washington DC. June 24, 2015. 3 pages.

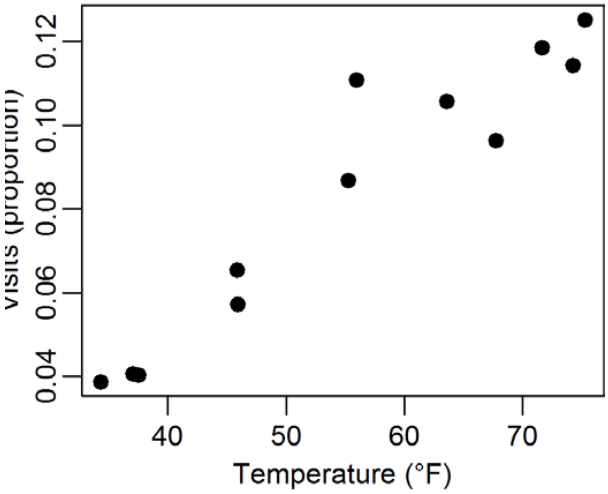


Figure 2. Bivariate scatterplot showing the relationship between observed (1979-2013) long-term average monthly visitation and temperature at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. Each month's visitation is expressed as a proportion of the annual total.

Future potential visitation

We used the Very strong historical relationship between temperature and visitation at the park to project potential visitation changes by mid-century (2041-2060). Initial mid-century temperature projections were based on changes from the 1960-1990 baseline time period. In certain months, most notably at coastal parks, the rate of warming over the past 2+ decades (the historical visitation period) has been more rapid than projected rates, especially under low emissions (RCP 4.5). Thus, the lower rates of projected climate change should generally be treated as conservative. Monthly warming, compared with the historical visitation period (1979-2013), is +2.4 °F (+1.3 °C) under low emissions (RCP 4.5) and +6.1 °F (+3.4 °C) under high emissions (RCP 8.5). Potential visitation changes, based only on air temperature and a potential growth maximum are shown in Figure 3 and summarized as follows (values below show the maximum range of future potential visitation projections across the four scenarios):

- 5-12% increase in annual visitation
- 0-2% increase in peak season visitation (3 busiest contiguous months)
- 3-8% increase in shoulder season visitation (2 months prior and 2 months after peak season)
- 11-29% increase in low season visitation (3 contiguous months with least visitation)
- 13-24 day expansion of the visitation season (defined as beginning on the date when 10% of historical cumulative visitation was achieved and ending on the date when 10% of historical cumulative visitation remained for the year)

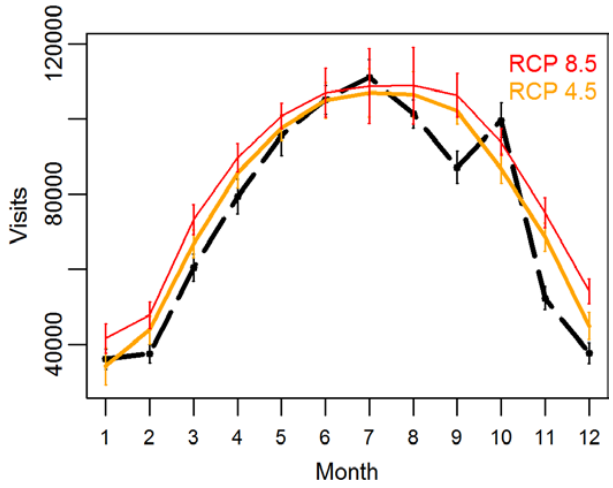


Figure 3. Observed (1979-2013) and potential future visitation (2041-2060) patterns at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. Historical average values are black circles and error bars (black) are +/- one standard error. Red solid lines are estimates for high emissions (RCP 8.5) and orange solid lines are for low emissions (RCP 4.5) low maximum growth projections, dashed lines show high maximum growth projections when different from low maximum growth of the corresponding (same color) emissions scenario. Future projection error bars (orange, red) show +/- one standard error of the prediction estimates.

Interpreting Output

The research presented here is not a forecast of what the future will look like but rather a projection of how visitation may change based on (1) its historical relationship with temperature, and (2) how temperature is expected to change in the future. These models are not crystal-ball prophecies but rather tools to help managers envision potential future changes and their management implications. This study uses a single explanatory variable, monthly average air temperature, and yet captures a large amount of the variation in visitation patterns across the system as a whole and at many individual parks. Many factors will alter and constrain actual future visitation patterns, including population changes, economic trends, travel costs, leisure time availability, future disposable income, and the capacity of parks and local communities to expand or alter services to meet changing visitor needs. Additional questions for managers to explore in the context of visitation:

- What other non-modeled factors are driving visitation at your park?
- When does the temperature model perform poorly and what else is occurring in those months?
- What other factors might change in the future and further affect visitation?
- How might you combine the climate projections with other factors to develop future visitation scenarios?

Implications – Adapting to Change

The National Park Service is about to begin its second century of preserving America's natural and cultural heritage and providing for visitor enjoyment. A changing climate is likely to have cascading and complex effects on park visitation, management, and local economies. Parks and surrounding communities will need to adapt to both the challenges and opportunities posed by changing visitation. Understanding the relationship between visitation and temperature presents an opportunity to plan for the future. Increased efforts to measure human visitation trends, the analyses provided here, and further research into short-term visitation patterns and other drivers of visitation can help park managers adapt to the effects of climate change and remain effective resource stewards while promoting visitor experience.

More Information

This project is part of ongoing work of the National Park Service Climate Change Response Program and collaborators to support park adaptation to changing conditions. View more information online for NPS managers and for the public.

Source Publication

Fisichelli, N.A., Schuurman, G.W., Monahan, W.B., and Ziesler, P.S. 2015. Protected area tourism in a changing climate: will visitation at US national parks warm up or overheat?. PLOS ONE doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0128226.

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Hensley Settlement
Cultural Landscape Report

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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